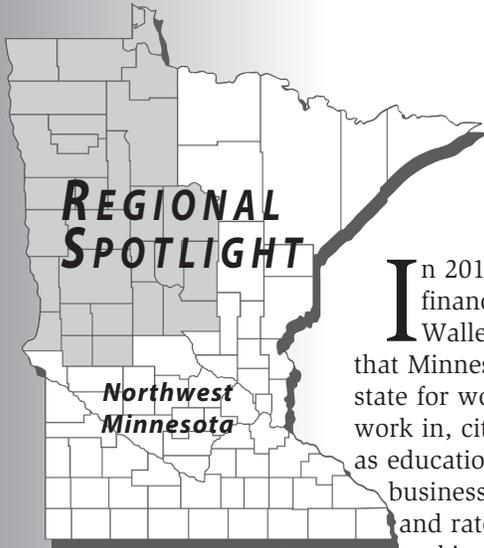


Minnesota Employment Review

Review
ONLINE

mn.gov/deed/review

March 2018 Data...April 2018 Issue



The Gender Pay Gap in Northwestern Minnesota

In 2018 the online financial advisor WalletHub concluded that Minnesota is the best state for women to live and work in, citing factors such as educational attainment, business ownership, and rate of poverty in making the distinction. But despite the welcome accolades, an obstinate gender pay gap exists across the state.

According to the Census Bureau's American Community Survey (ACS), the unadjusted earnings ratio

in Minnesota, or women's earnings as a percent of men's, was approximately 71.3 percent in 2016. By industry, the earnings ratio ranges from 51 percent in the Agriculture, Forestry, Fishing, and Hunting sector to 89 percent in Real Estate and Rental and Leasing. Overall, the gender pay gap is even larger in Northwest Minnesota, where the earnings ratio was approximately 66.4 percent in 2016. There are many ways to examine the gender pay gap, however. Industry sector, hours worked, level

of education, and occupation can each contribute to the gender pay gap, positively or negatively.

One of the most glaring factors associated with gender pay gaps is the number of hours worked. Even if the pay is the same, one gender will earn more over the course of a pay period or on an annual basis if the gender works more hours. It should be noted, however, that the average number of hours worked can vary even among full-time employees. So while comparing the

Features:

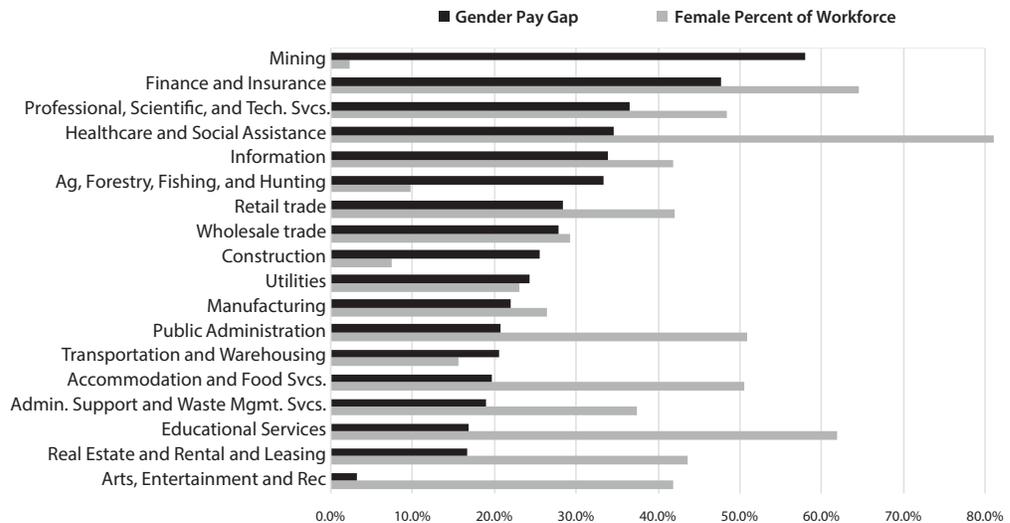
Feature: Manufacturing Industry in Minnesota

County Snapshots:
Morrison, Mower, Murray, Nicollet

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Chart 1. 2016 Gender Pay Gap by Industry, Full-time, Year-round Workers, Northwest Minnesota



Source: American Community Survey, 5-year estimates

earnings of full-time, year-round workers provides a more accurate assessment of the gender pay gap than comparing overall earnings, it does not completely control for the number of hours worked.

Among full-time, year-round workers in Northwest Minnesota, a gender pay gap exists in every regional industry, although it varies from sector to sector. The Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation industry had the smallest pay gap, where women earn approximately 97 percent of what men earn. On the other end of the spectrum, women earn only 42 percent of what men earn in Mining,

where the pay gap is over 10 percent larger than in any other industry. The top three industries in terms of employment – Health Care and Social Assistance, Manufacturing, and Retail Trade – had the 4th, 11th, and 7th largest gender pay gaps, respectively (see Chart 1).

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the sector with the largest gender pay gap, Mining, also had the smallest representation of women in the workforce. However, in other industries the relationship between workforce representation and the size of the gender pay gap is much less consistent. For example, less than 10

percent of workers in Construction are women, but the industry’s gender pay gap is less than half the size of that in Mining. On the other hand, despite having a workforce that is nearly 65 percent female, Finance and Insurance has the second largest gender pay gap, as the median earnings of women in the industry are 48 percent lower than those of men in Northwest Minnesota.

Educational attainment also affects wages, and adds more context to the gender pay gap conversation. If men have higher average educational attainment, it would follow that they would also have higher wages, which would in part explain the pay gap. As it turns out, however, a higher percentage of women aged 25 years and older have bachelor’s degrees in Northwest Minnesota, and roughly the same percentage of each gender has graduate or professional degrees (see Table 1).

Interestingly, the wage gap shrinks at each level of education, signaling that women with bachelor’s degrees or higher are able to earn closer to what men earn in Northwest Minnesota. Still, the regional pay gap is approximately 29 percent for women with bachelor’s degrees, and 14 percent for those with graduate or professional degrees.

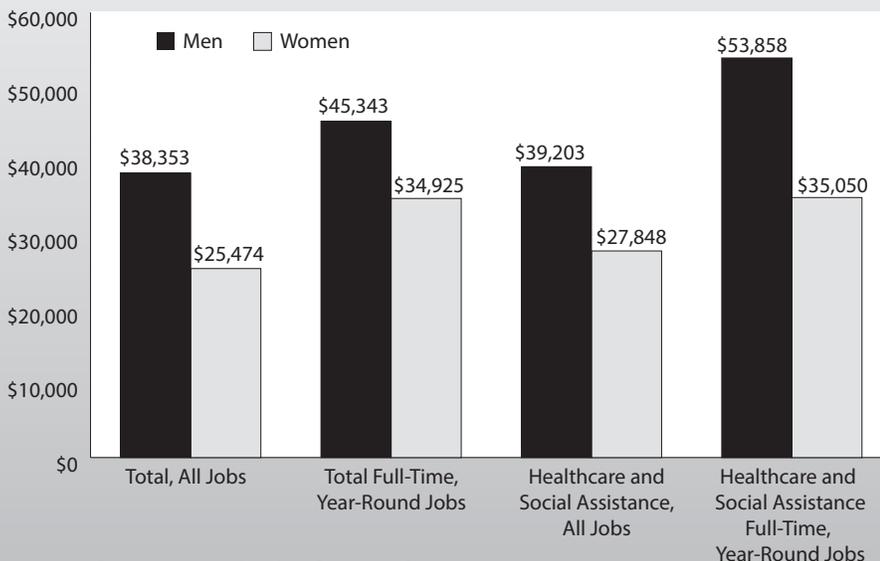
There are several possible reasons for this. As noted previously, the number of hours worked is likely to factor in heavily. But the industries that women choose to work in and the wage levels associated with those industries is also a factor. In Northwest Minnesota women with bachelor’s degrees are more likely to work in industries that pay lower wages, while men are more likely to work in higher-paying sectors. For example, in 2016 more than 50 percent of women over 25 years of age who had bachelor’s degrees or higher worked in Education and Health Services, where the average annual

Table 1. Educational Attainment by Sex for the Population 25 Years and Older

	Number	Percent	*Median Annual Earnings
Men, 25 years and older	188,240	100.0%	\$40,449
Bachelor’s Degree	28,393	15.1%	\$52,165
Graduate or Professional Degree	13,025	6.9%	\$62,426
Women, 25 years and older	191,071	100.0%	\$27,240
Bachelor’s Degree	33,029	17.3%	\$37,010
Graduate or Professional Degree	12,482	6.5%	\$53,450

*Among working residents
Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey, 5-year estimates

Chart 2. 2016 Median Annual Earnings by Gender, Northwest Minnesota



Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey, 5-year estimates

Table 2. 2016 Full-Time, Year Round Healthcare Occupations by Gender, Northwest Minnesota

	Male Employment	Percent of Male Employment	Female Employment	Percent of Female Employment
Total, Healthcare Occupations	2,542	100.0%	11,168	100.0%
Health diagnosing and treating practitioners	1,612	63.4%	4,690	42.0%
Health technologists and technicians	615	24.2%	3,037	27.2%
Healthcare support occupations	315	12.4%	3,441	30.8%

Source: 2012-2016 American Community Survey 5-Year Estimates

wage for bachelor’s degree holders in the region was \$60,669. Compared to their female counterparts, men of similar age and educational attainment worked more often in industries such as Wholesale Trade, Manufacturing, and Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services, each of which paid more on average for those with bachelor’s degrees or higher. In total, 18.2 percent of men with bachelor’s degrees or higher worked in the top five paying industries, compared to 11.4 percent of women.

Healthcare and Social Assistance

Perhaps more than any other industry, Healthcare and Social Assistance would benefit by addressing the gender pay gap. Regionally, the industry employs the most workers in Northwest Minnesota, and relies heavily on a female workforce. Over 80 percent of regional Healthcare and Social Assistance workers are women, and the healthcare industry is projected to grow by 16.5 percent from 2014 to 2024, adding another 5,369 regional jobs. This represents more than half of the total job growth projected in Northwest Minnesota over the 10 year period.

DEED recently published a statewide study of the gender pay gap in Healthcare and Social Assistance, which showed that the gender pay gap decreased when hours worked was taken into account. In Northwest Minnesota, data from the American Community Survey (ACS) show that in 2016 women’s median



annual earnings in Healthcare and Social Assistance were 71 percent of those for men (see Chart 2). Like the statewide study, it would be reasonable to expect the pay gap to decrease when accounting for hours worked. If men worked full-time more often, it follows they would earn more on average than women over time, all else being equal. However, when comparing those who work full-time, the wage gap increased, with women earning 65 percent of men annually.

Some of this can be explained by the difference in the type of healthcare occupations held by men and women. The ACS shows that over 63 percent of men in Northwest Minnesota employed in healthcare occupations work in the highest-earning health diagnosing and treating practitioners

category, compared to 42 percent of females (see Table 2). Furthermore, females account for 92 percent of the 3,756 people employed in full-time, year-round healthcare support occupations, which offer much lower wages.

Whether the difference in healthcare jobs is enough to explain fully the gender wage gap in health care is difficult to tell. After all, this industry has other occupations besides those which are specifically healthcare-oriented, such as administrators, maintenance workers, and even accountants. But it may be that the persistence of traditional occupational roles in our culture and institutions foster the industry’s pay gap more than any other factor.

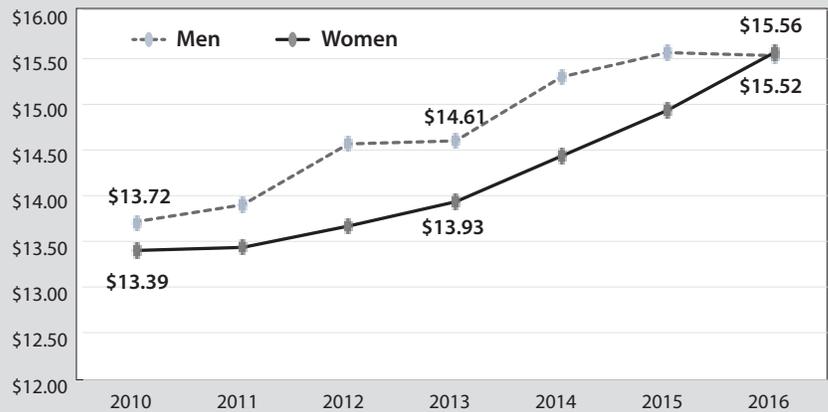
In an encouraging trend DEED's Quarterly Employment Demographics (QED) show that median hourly wages in Healthcare and Social Assistance increased faster for women than for men since the end of the recession. By 2016 median hourly wage rates in the industry were essentially even. So while men might have more high-earning outliers, in both genders 50 percent of workers were making less than approximately \$15.50 per hour, and 50 percent of workers were making more (see Chart 3).

Still, both ACS and QED show an overall gender pay gap in Northwest Minnesota and statewide. Further progress toward closing the gender pay gap could affect change at multiple economic levels. For employers who are competing in a tight labor market, taking steps toward equal pay may provide the edge needed to fill vacancies now and in the future. As recently as the fourth quarter of 2017, there were an estimated 8,899 job vacancies and 11,414 unemployed workers in Northwest Minnesota or only 1.3 jobseekers per vacancy (see Chart 4).

In the constraints of a tight labor market, employers in industries throughout Northwest Minnesota will have to tap several sources to fill their employment needs. Although women already fill just over half of the jobs in the region, data show that a gender pay gap exists, which could be addressed to attract workers inside and outside the region. In some cases this may be a reflection of specific wage disparities. However, there is also an opportunity for employers to promote equal pay - and potentially find favor- by encouraging more women to fill leadership roles and high-paying occupations in general.

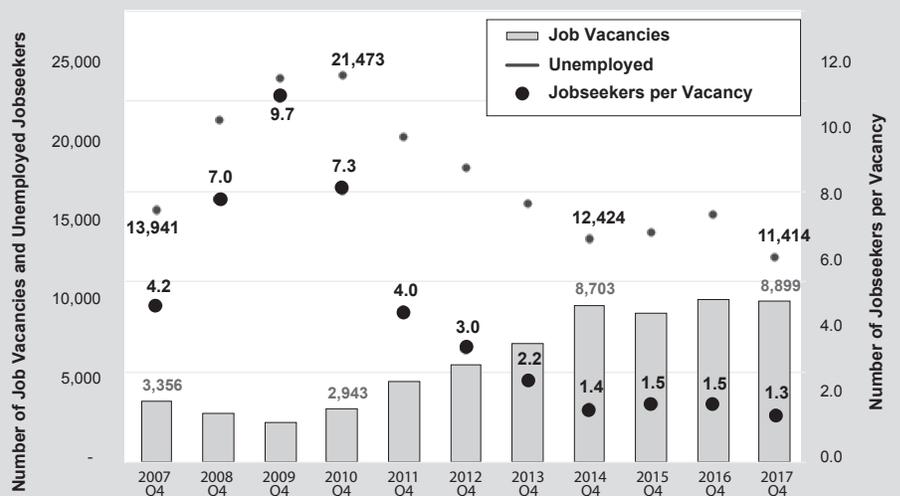
by Chet Bodin

Chart 3. Median Hourly Wage by Gender, Healthcare and Social Assistance, Northwest Minnesota, 2010-2016



Source: Quarterly Employment Demographics

Chart 4. 2007-2017 Jobseekers per Vacancy, Northwest Minnesota



Source: DEED Job Vacancy Survey, LAUS program

NAICS 72: Accommodation and Food Services, Calendar Year 2017

by Derek Teed

Back when the Bureau of Labor Statistics provided four-digit Standard Industrial Classification Codes (SIC) to differentiate industries, restaurants were not a service but a retail operation. Times change, and so do coding concepts. Restaurant codes now provide detailed data for older concepts such as caterers and newer concepts such as food trucks. Accommodation has always been a service. The surprise here is that casino hotels are coded as units of tribal or local government and do not appear in the charts below which are strictly privately owned.



Accommodation employment is heavily concentrated in Hotels and Motels - 72% of the total (see Table 1). The largest part of Food Services is, no surprise, Limited Service or fast food restaurants.

Table 1: NAICS 72 Supersectors, Minnesota

Industry	Employment 2017
Accommodation	34,872
Hotels (except Casino Hotels) and Motels	25,109

While there are few communities in Minnesota that do not have a restaurant, the Twin Cities Metro Area has 59.7% of the state's fast food or Limited Service restaurants, 64.8% of Full Service restaurants, and 42.6% of Drinking Places or bars.

Table 2: Employment for NAICS 72, Twin Cities Metro Area

Industry	Employment 2017
Food Services and Drinking Places	122,953
Drinking Places (Alcoholic Beverages)	4,655
Full-Service Restaurants	59,366
Limited-Service Restaurants	41,840

Labor Force Estimates

County/ Area

County/ Area	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Rate of Unemployment		
	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017
United States ('000s)												
(Seasonally adjusted)	161,763	161,921	160,235	155,178	155,215	153,064	6,585	6,706	7,171	4.1%	4.1%	4.5%
(Unadjusted)	161,548	161,494	159,912	154,877	154,403	152,628	6,671	7,091	7,284	4.1	4.4	4.6
Minnesota												
(Seasonally adjusted)	3,093,831	3,086,058	3,056,265	2,994,723	2,986,232	2,946,452	99,108	99,826	109,813	3.2	3.2	3.6
(Unadjusted)	3,100,350	3,105,640	3,047,901	2,983,284	2,985,077	2,921,538	117,066	120,563	126,363	3.8	3.9	4.1
Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSA)*												
Mpls.-St. Paul MSA	2,011,713	2,016,482	1,950,555	1,946,260	1,948,875	1,876,637	65,453	67,607	73,918	3.3	3.4	3.8
Duluth-Superior MSA	146,916	147,864	142,946	139,895	140,509	134,506	7,021	7,355	8,440	4.8	5.0	5.9
Rochester MSA	122,235	122,216	119,146	118,088	117,869	114,736	4,147	4,347	4,410	3.4	3.6	3.7
St. Cloud MSA	114,709	114,643	110,603	109,975	109,713	105,399	4,734	4,930	5,204	4.1	4.3	4.7
Mankato-N Mankato MSA	62,866	63,192	60,492	60,978	61,225	58,428	1,888	1,967	2,064	3.0	3.1	3.4
Fargo-Moorhead MSA	139,587	140,260	137,720	135,295	135,830	133,550	4,292	4,430	4,170	3.1	3.2	3.0
Grand Forks MSA	56,701	56,785	56,850	54,833	54,890	54,930	1,868	1,895	1,920	3.3	3.3	3.4
Region One	48,017	47,808	48,274	45,025	44,903	44,891	2,992	2,905	3,383	6.2	6.1	7.0
Kittson	2,361	2,343	2,343	2,260	2,243	2,217	101	100	126	4.3	4.3	5.4
Marshall	5,628	5,563	5,617	5,072	5,014	5,031	556	549	586	9.9	9.9	10.4
Norman	3,354	3,344	3,445	3,156	3,141	3,218	198	203	227	5.9	6.1	6.6
Pennington	9,073	9,011	9,183	8,389	8,351	8,357	684	660	826	7.5	7.3	9.0
Polk	17,296	17,293	17,166	16,435	16,438	16,268	861	855	898	5.0	4.9	5.2
Red Lake	2,292	2,257	2,367	2,085	2,083	2,105	207	174	262	9.0	7.7	11.1
Roseau	8,013	7,997	8,153	7,628	7,633	7,695	385	364	458	4.8	4.6	5.6
Region Two	44,106	44,126	43,099	41,153	41,172	39,933	2,953	2,954	3,166	6.7	6.7	7.3
Beltrami	24,230	24,188	23,880	22,836	22,830	22,353	1,394	1,358	1,527	5.8	5.6	6.4
Clearwater	4,868	4,864	4,808	4,246	4,256	4,186	622	608	622	12.8	12.5	12.9
Hubbard	10,175	10,243	9,542	9,492	9,504	8,790	683	739	752	6.7	7.2	7.9
Lake of the Woods	2,401	2,427	2,454	2,304	2,326	2,343	97	101	111	4.0	4.2	4.5
Mahnomen	2,432	2,404	2,415	2,275	2,256	2,261	157	148	154	6.5	6.2	6.4
Region Three	167,420	168,397	161,513	158,404	159,055	150,554	9,016	9,342	10,959	5.4	5.5	6.8
Aitkin	7,406	7,442	7,029	6,794	6,802	6,364	612	640	665	8.3	8.6	9.5
Carlton	18,325	18,408	17,632	17,267	17,356	16,465	1,058	1,052	1,167	5.8	5.7	6.6
Cook	3,334	3,370	2,784	3,171	3,197	2,615	163	173	169	4.9	5.1	6.1
Itasca	22,065	22,146	21,370	20,450	20,495	19,254	1,615	1,651	2,116	7.3	7.5	9.9
Koochiching	6,099	6,066	6,067	5,657	5,662	5,511	442	404	556	7.2	6.7	9.2
Lake	5,662	5,707	5,031	5,427	5,450	4,754	235	257	277	4.2	4.5	5.5
St. Louis	104,529	105,258	101,600	99,638	100,093	95,591	4,891	5,165	6,009	4.7	4.9	5.9
City of Duluth	46,832	47,095	45,075	45,236	45,442	43,209	1,596	1,653	1,866	3.4	3.5	4.1
Balance of St. Louis County	57,697	58,163	56,525	54,402	54,651	52,382	3,295	3,512	4,143	5.7	6.0	7.3
Region Four	129,105	129,062	125,450	123,349	123,152	119,144	5,756	5,910	6,306	4.5	4.6	5.0
Becker	19,081	19,102	18,157	18,069	18,094	17,087	1,012	1,008	1,070	5.3	5.3	5.9
Clay	36,437	36,550	36,019	35,011	35,091	34,485	1,426	1,459	1,534	3.9	4.0	4.3
Douglas	20,831	20,849	19,874	20,026	20,037	18,965	805	812	909	3.9	3.9	4.6
Grant	3,280	3,269	3,234	3,081	3,072	3,018	199	197	216	6.1	6.0	6.7
Otter Tail	32,217	32,065	30,935	30,539	30,308	29,084	1,678	1,757	1,851	5.2	5.5	6.0
Pope	6,366	6,371	6,215	6,130	6,120	5,934	236	251	281	3.7	3.9	4.5
Stevens	5,511	5,494	5,525	5,333	5,308	5,328	178	186	197	3.2	3.4	3.6
Traverse	1,814	1,803	1,809	1,730	1,714	1,713	84	89	96	4.6	4.9	5.3
Wilkin	3,568	3,559	3,682	3,430	3,408	3,530	138	151	152	3.9	4.2	4.1
Region Five	86,158	86,363	82,168	80,722	80,684	76,235	5,436	5,679	5,933	6.3	6.6	7.2
Cass	15,076	15,149	13,953	13,989	14,027	12,719	1,087	1,122	1,234	7.2	7.4	8.8
Crow Wing	33,215	33,352	30,983	31,363	31,417	28,946	1,852	1,935	2,037	5.6	5.8	6.6
Morrison	18,113	18,137	17,906	16,814	16,754	16,459	1,299	1,383	1,447	7.2	7.6	8.1
Todd	13,869	13,855	13,097	13,141	13,097	12,341	728	758	756	5.2	5.5	5.8
Wadena	5,885	5,870	6,229	5,415	5,389	5,770	470	481	459	8.0	8.2	7.4
Region Six East	67,973	67,747	64,802	64,778	64,529	61,314	3,195	3,218	3,488	4.7	4.8	5.4
Kandiyohi	25,282	25,202	24,002	24,191	24,105	22,852	1,091	1,097	1,150	4.3	4.4	4.8
McLeod	19,651	19,621	19,115	18,765	18,716	18,086	886	905	1,029	4.5	4.6	5.4
Meeker	13,492	13,466	13,149	12,796	12,759	12,375	696	707	774	5.2	5.3	5.9
Renville	9,548	9,458	8,536	9,026	8,949	8,001	522	509	535	5.5	5.4	6.3

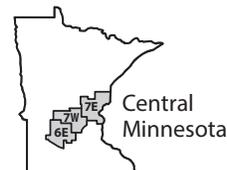
*Minneapolis-St. Paul Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) now includes Sherburne County in Minnesota and Pierce County in Wisconsin. St. Cloud MSA is now comprised of Benton and Stearns counties.

Numbers are unadjusted unless otherwise labeled.
Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development,
Local Area Unemployment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2018.

Labor Force Estimates

County/ Area

	Labor Force			Employment			Unemployment			Rate of Unemployment		
	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017
Region Six West	23,536	23,400	23,657	22,360	22,221	22,409	1,176	1,179	1,248	5.0%	5.0%	5.3%
Big Stone	2,683	2,660	2,671	2,525	2,501	2,506	158	159	165	5.9	6.0	6.2
Chippewa	6,970	6,896	6,997	6,639	6,580	6,617	331	316	380	4.7	4.6	5.4
Lac Qui Parle	3,528	3,504	3,592	3,348	3,317	3,422	180	187	170	5.1	5.3	4.7
Swift	5,066	5,072	5,047	4,788	4,785	4,753	278	287	294	5.5	5.7	5.8
Yellow Medicine	5,289	5,268	5,350	5,060	5,038	5,111	229	230	239	4.3	4.4	4.5
Region Seven East	89,623	89,774	87,161	84,000	84,090	81,006	5,623	5,684	6,155	6.3	6.3	7.1
Chisago	30,172	30,238	29,302	28,692	28,758	27,649	1,480	1,480	1,653	4.9	4.9	5.6
Isanti	21,475	21,541	20,702	20,318	20,342	19,434	1,157	1,199	1,268	5.4	5.6	6.1
Kanabec	9,353	9,340	9,143	8,521	8,519	8,260	832	821	883	8.9	8.8	9.7
Mille Lacs	13,309	13,347	12,997	12,306	12,327	11,926	1,003	1,020	1,071	7.5	7.6	8.2
Pine	15,314	15,308	15,017	14,163	14,144	13,737	1,151	1,164	1,280	7.5	7.6	8.5
Region Seven West	242,692	242,977	234,113	232,539	232,443	222,846	10,153	10,534	11,267	4.2	4.3	4.8
Benton	22,648	22,674	21,840	21,514	21,477	20,599	1,134	1,197	1,241	5.0	5.3	5.7
Sherburne	52,471	52,612	50,382	50,196	50,232	47,791	2,275	2,380	2,591	4.3	4.5	5.1
Stearns	92,061	91,969	88,763	88,461	88,236	84,800	3,600	3,733	3,963	3.9	4.1	4.5
Wright	75,512	75,722	73,128	72,368	72,498	69,656	3,144	3,224	3,472	4.2	4.3	4.7
Region Eight	64,319	64,056	64,713	61,632	61,230	61,660	2,687	2,826	3,053	4.2	4.4	4.7
Cottonwood	5,463	5,413	5,243	5,228	5,162	4,963	235	251	280	4.3	4.6	5.3
Jackson	5,679	5,687	6,001	5,471	5,475	5,742	208	212	259	3.7	3.7	4.3
Lincoln	3,324	3,322	3,323	3,158	3,155	3,152	166	167	171	5.0	5.0	5.1
Lyon	15,062	15,012	15,065	14,485	14,407	14,419	577	605	646	3.8	4.0	4.3
Murray	4,931	4,884	4,848	4,632	4,572	4,490	299	312	358	6.1	6.4	7.4
Nobles	11,396	11,370	11,345	11,015	10,966	10,834	381	404	511	3.3	3.6	4.5
Pipestone	4,989	4,955	4,741	4,738	4,701	4,477	251	254	264	5.0	5.1	5.6
Redwood	7,507	7,476	8,329	7,115	7,045	7,905	392	431	424	5.2	5.8	5.1
Rock	5,968	5,937	5,818	5,790	5,747	5,678	178	190	140	3.0	3.2	2.4
Region Nine	136,198	136,529	133,014	130,470	130,615	126,820	5,728	5,914	6,194	4.2	4.3	4.7
Blue Earth	41,592	41,779	39,962	40,285	40,434	38,544	1,307	1,345	1,418	3.1	3.2	3.5
Brown	14,750	14,722	14,745	14,003	13,979	13,941	747	743	804	5.1	5.0	5.5
Faribault	7,300	7,284	7,158	6,947	6,912	6,737	353	372	421	4.8	5.1	5.9
Le Sueur	16,235	16,300	15,929	15,173	15,199	14,804	1,062	1,101	1,125	6.5	6.8	7.1
Martin	10,354	10,355	10,297	9,948	9,936	9,850	406	419	447	3.9	4.0	4.3
Nicollet	21,274	21,413	20,530	20,693	20,791	19,884	581	622	646	2.7	2.9	3.1
Sibley	8,640	8,659	8,545	8,252	8,247	8,094	388	412	451	4.5	4.8	5.3
Waseca	9,595	9,615	9,285	9,038	9,045	8,792	557	570	493	5.8	5.9	5.3
Watonwan	6,458	6,402	6,563	6,131	6,072	6,174	327	330	389	5.1	5.2	5.9
Region Ten	283,846	283,963	279,495	273,828	273,450	268,565	10,018	10,513	10,930	3.5	3.7	3.9
Dodge	11,759	11,765	11,518	11,251	11,224	10,972	508	541	546	4.3	4.6	4.7
Fillmore	11,615	11,645	11,407	11,082	11,060	10,821	533	585	586	4.6	5.0	5.1
Freeborn	16,238	16,208	16,115	15,566	15,511	15,407	672	697	708	4.1	4.3	4.4
Goodhue	27,177	27,212	26,736	26,182	26,138	25,609	995	1,074	1,127	3.7	3.9	4.2
Houston	10,782	10,944	10,518	10,341	10,449	9,989	441	495	529	4.1	4.5	5.0
Mower	20,792	20,733	20,578	20,097	20,026	19,816	695	707	762	3.3	3.4	3.7
Olmsted	86,719	86,658	84,259	84,124	83,970	81,518	2,595	2,688	2,741	3.0	3.1	3.3
City of Rochester	63,853	63,814	61,708	62,044	61,930	59,831	1,809	1,884	1,877	2.8	3.0	3.0
Rice	37,376	37,355	36,441	36,051	35,991	34,967	1,325	1,364	1,474	3.5	3.7	4.0
Steele	19,975	19,920	20,836	19,146	19,077	19,996	829	843	840	4.2	4.2	4.0
Wabasha	12,142	12,148	11,962	11,631	11,615	11,425	511	533	537	4.2	4.4	4.5
Winona	29,271	29,375	29,125	28,357	28,389	28,045	914	986	1,080	3.1	3.4	3.7
Region Eleven	1,717,358	1,721,441	1,664,447	1,665,025	1,667,533	1,604,993	52,333	53,908	59,454	3.0	3.1	3.6
Anoka	197,693	198,074	192,221	190,771	190,964	184,226	6,922	7,110	7,995	3.5	3.6	4.2
Carver	57,892	58,021	55,711	56,095	56,172	53,677	1,797	1,849	2,034	3.1	3.2	3.7
Dakota	242,097	242,505	234,577	234,585	234,792	226,182	7,512	7,713	8,395	3.1	3.2	3.6
Hennepin	703,495	705,513	681,444	683,478	684,870	658,571	20,017	20,643	22,873	2.8	2.9	3.4
City of Bloomington	47,053	47,189	46,538	45,620	45,713	44,873	1,433	1,476	1,665	3.0	3.1	3.6
City of Minneapolis	240,143	240,825	232,901	233,280	233,755	225,009	6,863	7,070	7,892	2.9	2.9	3.4
Ramsey	289,954	290,674	281,847	280,871	281,329	271,422	9,083	9,345	10,425	3.1	3.2	3.7
City of St. Paul	159,015	159,391	154,494	153,947	154,198	148,700	5,068	5,193	5,794	3.2	3.3	3.8
Scott	83,267	83,431	79,983	80,638	80,729	77,185	2,629	2,702	2,798	3.2	3.2	3.5
Washington	142,960	143,223	138,664	138,587	138,677	133,730	4,373	4,546	4,934	3.1	3.2	3.6



Industrial Analysis

Overview

Minnesota added 2,900 jobs (0.1 percent) in March on a seasonally adjusted basis. All of that gain came from the private sector as public sector employment was off by 100 jobs (0.3 percent). Both Goods Producers and Service Providers grew by 0.1 percent, adding 400 and 2,500 jobs, respectively. February's Total Nonfarm estimate was also revised upward, from a loss of 1,300 to a loss of 200. Annually the state added 21,250 jobs (0.7 percent). Service providers added 18,147 jobs (0.7 percent), and goods producers added 3,103 (0.7 percent). Public sector employers added 7,086 jobs (1.7 percent), and the private sector added 14,164 (0.6 percent).

Mining and Logging

Mining and Logging employment was down by 100 (1.5 percent) in March, returning to a seasonally-adjusted 6,500 jobs. The supersector lost 58 jobs (0.9 percent) over the year. Mining and Logging has shown over-the-year declines in every month of 2018 so far after posting over-the-year job growth in every month of 2017.

Construction

Employment in Construction was off by 1000 (0.8 percent) in March on a seasonally adjusted basis. February's estimate was also revised downward from a gain of 300 to a loss of 900. It's possible that these two months of seasonal employment declines are related

to the unseasonable winter weather we saw early in the year. Annually Construction employers added 151 jobs (0.1 percent). Specialty Trade Contractors led the growth, adding 982 jobs (1.4 percent), while the other two component sectors, Construction of Buildings and Heavy and Civil Engineering Construction, both shed jobs.

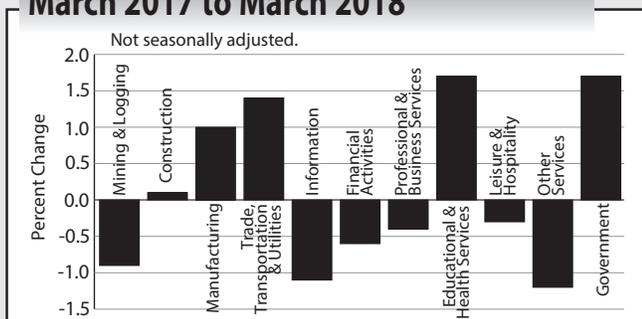
Manufacturing

Employment in the Manufacturing supersector was up by 1,500 (0.5 percent) in March. Durable Goods Manufacturing added 1,100 jobs (0.5 percent,) and Non-Durable Goods Manufacturing added 400 (0.3 percent). The supersector has added the jobs on an over-the-month basis every month in 2018. Annually Manufacturers added 3,101 jobs (1 percent). Durable Goods Manufacturers added 1,298 jobs (0.7 percent), and Non-Durable Goods Manufacturers added 1,712 (1.5 percent).

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities

Employment in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities was up by 1,900 (0.4 percent) in March with growth in all three component sectors. Wholesale Trade added 100 jobs (0.1 percent), Retail Trade added 900 (0.3 percent), and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities added 900 (0.8 percent). Over the year the supersector added 7,389 jobs (1.4 percent). It was the first time since June of 2017 that over-the-year growth in the supersector got above 1 percent. Wholesale Trade added 2,643 jobs (2 percent), Retail Trade added 2,495 (0.9 percent), and Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities added 2,251 (2.1 percent).

MN Employment Growth March 2017 to March 2018



Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2018.

Information

The Information supersector added 700 jobs (1.4 percent) in March, recovering from February's loss of 200 jobs. Annually the supersector's employment was off by 538 (1.1 percent), the second-most precipitous drop of any supersector in the state. Both published component sectors had declines of greater than 2 percent. It was the ninth consecutive month of over-the-year declines for the supersector.

*Over-the-year data are not seasonally adjusted because of small changes in seasonal adjustment factors from year to year. Also, there is no seasonality in over-the-year changes.

Financial Activities

Employment in the Financial Activities supersector was up slightly in March, adding 100 jobs (0.1 percent) from a gain of 300 (0.9 percent) in Real Estate and Rental and Leasing. The other component sector, Finance and Insurance, lost 200 jobs (0.1 percent). Over the year the supersector lost 1,141 jobs (0.6 percent), the third consecutive month of declines. All of the losses came in Finance and Insurance, which was down by 1,223 (0.8 percent) thanks to a loss of 1,080 (12.7 percent) in Nondepository Credit Intermediation. The other component sector, Real Estate and Rental and Leasing, added 82 jobs (0.2 percent).

Professional and Business Services

Professional and Business Services employment was up slightly in March, adding 200 jobs (0.1 percent). Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services led the way, adding 900 jobs (0.7 percent). This was largely counterbalanced by a loss of 800 (0.5 percent) in Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services. Annually the supersector lost 1,414 jobs (0.4 percent). The Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services component sector lost 1,109 jobs (0.7 percent), and Management of Companies and Enterprises lost 705 (0.9 percent). Administrative and Support and Waste Management and Remediation Services added 400 jobs (0.3 percent) despite the sharp over-the-year decline in component Employment Services (off 1,551 or 2.8 percent).

Educational and Health Services

Educational and Health Services employment added 800 jobs (0.1 percent) in March, following two consecutive months of over-the-month declines. Educational Services added 300 jobs (0.4 percent) while Health Care and Social Assistance added 500 (0.1 percent). On the year the supersector added 8,939 jobs (1.7 percent). Educational Services added 2,881 jobs (4.2 percent), and Health Care and Social Assistance added 6,058 (1.3 percent).

Leisure and Hospitality

Leisure and Hospitality employment was mostly flat in March, off by 100 jobs (0.0 percent). Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation lost 800 jobs (1.6 percent), while Accommodation and Food Services

added 700 (0.3 percent). Annually the supersector lost 786 jobs (0.3 percent). Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation added 1,883 jobs (4.8 percent). Accommodation and Food Services lost 2,669 (1.2 percent), with all of those losses coming from the larger Food Services side of the sector which shed 2,812 jobs (1.5 percent).

Other Services

The Other Services supersector lost 1,000 jobs (0.9 percent) in March. It was the largest proportional over-the-month decline in the state for any supersector save Mining and Logging. Annually Other Services employers lost 1,388 jobs (1.2 percent), the single largest over-the-year decline in the state. Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional, and Similar Organizations led the decline, off by 1,183 jobs (1.8 percent), although all three component sectors shed employment on the year.

Government

Government employment was mostly flat in March, off by 100 jobs (0.0 percent). The entirety of the small decline came from Federal employers, as State and Local Government employment both remained steady. Annually Government employment was up by 7,086 (1.7 percent). State Government added 3,402 jobs (3.3 percent), and Local employers added 3,811 (1.3 percent).

by Nick Dobbins

Seasonally Adjusted Nonfarm Employment

In 1,000's

Industry	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Jan 2018
Total Nonagricultural	2,951.3	2,948.4	2,948.6
Goods-Producing	448.7	448.3	447.5
Mining and Logging	127.3	128.4	129.2
Construction	120.8	121.8	122.7
Manufacturing	321.4	319.9	318.3
Service-Providing	2,502.6	2,500.1	2,501.1
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	544.5	542.6	541.0
Information	49.8	49.1	49.3
Financial Activities	178.6	178.5	178.6
Professional and Business Services	373.2	373.0	377.0
Educational and Health Services	539.4	538.6	539.0
Leisure and Hospitality	274.2	274.3	271.0
Other Services	114.5	115.5	115.5
Government	428.4	428.5	429.7

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development
Current Employment Statistics, 2018.

Regional Analysis

Minneapolis-St. Paul-Bloomington Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA)

Employment in the Minneapolis-St. Paul MSA was up by 4,252 (0.2 percent) in March, which is in line with traditional employment growth for the month. The largest proportional growth came in Leisure and Hospitality, up 1.1 percent (1,923 jobs) as employers began spring hiring in Accommodation and Food Services industries. Manufacturers added 1,597 jobs (0.8 percent), with most of that growth coming among Durable Goods Manufacturers (up 1,328 or 1 percent). Government employers shed 1,488 jobs (0.6 percent). Over the year metro area employers added 16,455 jobs. Notable growth occurred in a number of supersectors, including Educational and Health Services (up 6,604, 2 percent), Government (up 6036, 2.4 percent), and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (up 6,690, 1.9 percent). The largest numerical decline came in Professional and Business Services, which was off by 4,064 jobs (1.3 percent), while the largest proportional decline came in Mining, Logging, and Construction, which was off by 2.3 percent, 1,659 jobs.

Duluth-Superior MSA

The Duluth-Superior MSA lost 429 jobs (0.3 percent) in March, which is slightly out of line with the small gains seen in statewide and Twin Cities employment, but common for Duluth, where employment generally doesn't show its spring growth until April. Trade, Transportation, and Utilities had the most losses, both proportionally and in real jobs, off by 227 or 0.9 percent. All of the losses came from the Transportation, Warehousing, and Utilities component sector. Annually the Duluth MSA added 1,404 jobs (1 percent). Mining, Logging, and Construction employment was up by 256

(3.2 percent), and Manufacturing was up 168 (2.3 percent). The largest proportional decline came in the already-tiny Information supersector, which suffered a 5.5 percent decline from last March, losing 77 jobs. Professional and Business Services lost the most jobs, off by 101 or 1.3 percent.

Rochester MSA

The Rochester MSA added 489 jobs (0.4 percent) in March. Manufacturing employers added 128 jobs (1.3 percent), and Government employers added 175 (1.3 percent). The largest proportional increase came in Professional and Business Services, up 2 percent or 102 jobs. The largest proportional decline was in Financial Activities, which was off by 0.3 percent or 7 jobs. Annually the MSA added 70 jobs or just 0.1 percent. It was the lowest over-the-year growth of any MSA in the state. Losses in Mining, Logging, and Construction (down 123 jobs or 3.1 percent) and Educational and Health Services (down 856 or 1.7 percent) held annual job growth down in the area. The largest increase came in Leisure and Hospitality, which added 618 jobs or 6.1 percent.

St. Cloud MSA

The Saint Cloud MSA added 427 jobs (0.4 percent) in March, slightly outpacing statewide over-the-month growth. Mining, Logging, and Construction added 188 jobs (3.3 percent), the largest growth rate of any supersector in the MSA, during a month when statewide employment in the supersector declined by 0.9 percent. Manufacturing also showed notable growth, adding 270 jobs (1.8 percent). Annually the Saint Cloud MSA added 693 jobs (0.6 percent). Manufacturing employers led the way, adding 688 jobs (4.6 percent), along with Educational and Health Services, which added 804 (3.7 percent).

The sharpest decline came in Leisure and Hospitality, which was off by 6.2 percent or 558 jobs. Mining, Logging, and Construction employment was off by 223 (3.7 percent) on the year, while Trade, Transportation, and Utilities lost 370 jobs (1.7 percent).

Mankato-North Mankato MSA

Employment in the Mankato-North Mankato MSA was off by 154 jobs or 0.3 percent on an unadjusted basis in March. Employment in goods production grew by 0.6 percent (62 jobs) but that small amount of growth was swamped by the loss of 216 jobs (0.4 percent) among service providers. Private and public-sector employers lost jobs in March. Annually the Mankato area added 1,278 jobs (2.2 percent), the largest over-the-year growth rate of any MSA in Minnesota. Service providers added 949 jobs (2 percent), and goods producers added 329 (3.4 percent). Most of the annual growth came in the private sector, which added 1,209 jobs or 2.5 percent, although public sector employment was also up on the year.

Fargo-Moorhead MSA

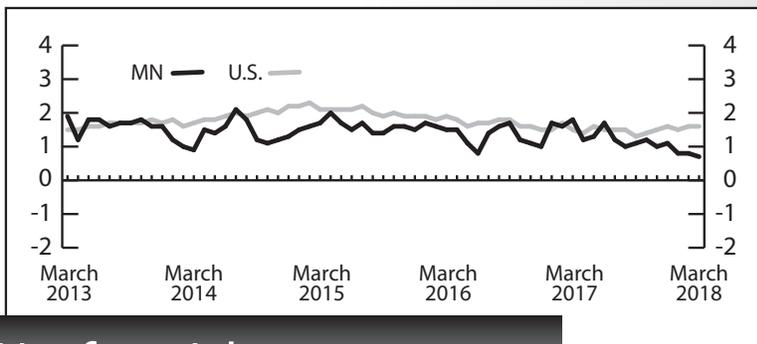
The Fargo-Moorhead MSA's employment was mostly flat in March as the area added 30 jobs (0 percent). Gains in Mining, Logging, and Construction (up 209 or 2.8 percent) and Professional and Business Services (up 237 or 1.6 percent) were countered by similarly-sized losses in Government (down 283 or 1.4 percent) and Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (down 342, 1.1 percent). Annually the Fargo-Moorhead area added 654 jobs (0.5 percent). Educational and Health Services added 821 jobs (3.4 percent), and Manufacturing added 306 (3.2 percent). Trade, Transportation, and Utilities lost 339 (1.1 percent), and Leisure and Hospitality lost 285 (2.1 percent).

Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA

The Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA lost 78 jobs (0.1 percent) in March. The only supersector to gain or lose more than 100 jobs was Trade, Transportation, and Utilities (down 164, 1.4 percent). The only other supersector with movement of more than 1 percent was Information, which lost 1.4 percent (8 jobs). Annually the MSA lost 772 jobs (1.4 percent). Once again, it was the only MSA with negative over-the-year job growth. The primary culprit remained a significant loss in Leisure and Hospitality, which was off by 822 jobs (13 percent).

by Nick Dobbins

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2018; Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor, Current Employment Statistics, 2018.



Total Nonfarm Jobs U.S. and MN over-the-year percent change

Employer Survey of Minnesota Nonfarm Payroll Jobs, Hours and Earnings

Numbers are unadjusted.

Note: State, regional and local estimates from past months (for all tables pages 11-13) may be revised from figures previously published.

Industry

Industry	Jobs* (Thousands)			Percent Change: From**		Production Workers Hours and Earnings					
	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
						Mar 2018	Mar 2017	Mar 2018	Mar 2017	Mar 2018	Mar 2017
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	2,901.9	2,897.0	2,880.6	0.2%	0.7%	—	—	—	—	—	—
GOODS-PRODUCING	428.2	426.5	425.1	0.4	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining, Logging, and Construction	110.6	111.6	110.5	-0.9	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining and Logging	6.2	6.2	6.3	0.5	-0.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Construction	104.4	105.5	104.2	-1.0	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specialty Trade Contractors	69.5	71.3	68.5	-2.5	1.4	\$1,184.45	\$1,238.83	37.2	38.2	\$31.84	\$32.43
Manufacturing	317.6	314.8	314.6	0.9	1.0	866.40	852.39	40.6	41.0	21.34	20.79
Durable Goods	200.6	198.8	199.3	0.9	0.7	921.30	873.31	41.5	40.6	22.20	21.51
Wood Product Manufacturing	11.1	10.9	10.9	1.5	1.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fabricated Metal Production	42.2	42.1	42.1	0.2	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery Manufacturing	32.7	32.6	32.7	0.4	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer and Electronic Product	45.0	45.0	45.0	0.0	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	26.2	26.2	26.0	-0.1	0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation Equipment	10.3	10.3	10.6	-0.4	-3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	16.2	16.2	16.1	0.3	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nondurable Goods	117.0	116.0	115.3	0.9	1.5	781.68	819.82	39.3	41.7	19.89	19.66
Food Manufacturing	47.1	47.3	46.0	-0.5	2.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICE-PROVIDING	2,473.6	2,470.5	2,455.5	0.1	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	534.7	532.2	527.3	0.5	1.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Trade	133.3	132.8	130.6	0.3	2.0	906.78	878.47	38.1	37.8	23.80	23.24
Retail Trade	294.3	293.4	291.8	0.3	0.9	433.86	409.03	28.1	27.6	15.44	14.82
Motor Vehicle and Parts	35.1	34.9	35.0	0.5	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Building Material and Garden Equipment	25.4	24.8	25.2	2.3	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food and Beverage Stores	56.6	56.3	55.0	0.6	3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Gasoline Stations	24.8	24.8	24.9	-0.1	-0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Merchandise Stores	59.4	60.0	58.5	-1.0	1.4	386.75	370.37	28.5	28.6	13.57	12.95
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	107.2	105.9	104.9	1.2	2.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation and Warehousing	94.8	93.7	92.6	1.2	2.4	737.22	705.33	33.0	34.9	22.34	20.21
Information	49.8	49.2	50.3	1.2	-1.1	1,039.96	999.36	34.7	34.7	29.97	28.80
Publishing Industries	18.8	18.8	19.2	0.0	-2.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunications	13.0	13.0	13.3	0.0	-2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Financial Activities	177.6	177.2	178.7	0.2	-0.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Insurance	143.5	143.7	144.7	-0.1	-0.8	1,152.18	1,129.98	37.0	37.0	31.14	30.54
Credit Intermediation	62.3	62.5	64.0	-0.4	-2.7	806.82	769.35	35.7	34.3	22.60	22.43
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	19.5	19.6	19.5	-0.4	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Insurance Carriers and Related	61.7	61.6	61.3	0.2	0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	34.1	33.5	34.0	1.8	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional and Business Services	364.8	365.6	366.2	-0.2	-0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	157.9	159.3	159.0	-0.9	-0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Services	18.1	18.1	18.2	0.2	-0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accounting, Tax Preparation	17.7	17.9	17.7	-0.9	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer Systems Design	34.4	34.6	36.2	-0.4	-5.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Management of Companies and Enterprises	78.7	78.8	79.4	-0.1	-0.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Administrative and Support Services	128.1	127.5	127.7	0.4	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational and Health Services	540.2	539.0	531.3	0.2	1.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational Services	70.9	70.1	68.0	1.2	4.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health Care and Social Assistance	469.3	468.9	463.2	0.1	1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambulatory Health Care	154.4	153.4	151.7	0.7	1.8	1,356.60	1,360.27	37.3	36.4	36.37	37.37
Offices of Physicians	74.6	74.4	73.1	0.2	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals	112.4	111.9	111.0	0.4	1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	106.3	107.8	107.4	-1.3	-1.0	474.05	460.46	28.8	28.6	16.46	16.10
Social Assistance	96.2	95.8	93.1	0.4	3.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leisure and Hospitality	257.2	255.7	258.0	0.6	-0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	41.5	42.3	39.6	-2.0	4.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accommodation and Food Services	215.7	213.4	218.4	1.1	-1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Food Services and Drinking Places	190.0	187.7	192.8	1.2	-1.5	283.97	279.94	19.9	20.3	14.27	13.79
Other Services	114.3	115.2	115.7	-0.8	-1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	63.6	64.2	64.7	-1.1	-1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Government	435.1	436.4	428.0	-0.3	1.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Federal Government	31.8	31.9	32.0	-0.2	-0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
State Government	105.5	105.8	102.1	-0.3	3.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
State Government Education	65.8	66.5	62.7	-0.9	5.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Local Government	297.8	298.7	294.0	-0.3	1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Local Government Education	154.1	154.3	152.1	-0.1	1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—

Note: Not all industry subgroups are shown for every major industry category.

* Totals may not add because of rounding.

** Percent change based on unrounded numbers.

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2018.

Employer Survey of Twin Cities Nonfarm Payroll Jobs, Hours and Earnings

Numbers are unadjusted.

Note: State, regional and local estimates from past months (for all tables pages 11-13) may be revised from figures previously published.

Industry	Jobs*			Percent Change		Production Workers Hours and Earnings					
	(Thousands)			From**		Average Weekly Earnings		Average Weekly Hours		Average Hourly Earnings	
	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Mar 2018	Mar 2017	Mar 2018	Mar 2017	Mar 2018	Mar 2017
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	1,972.7	1,968.5	1,956.2	0.2%	0.8%	—	—	—	—	—	—
GOODS-PRODUCING	266.2	265.0	265.9	0.4	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mining, Logging, and Construction	69.6	70.0	71.3	-0.6	-2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Construction of Buildings	16.5	16.4	17.0	0.8	-2.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Specialty Trade Contractors	47.4	48.0	48.3	-1.2	-1.8	\$1,200.69	\$1,307.81	36.1	37.7	\$33.26	\$34.69
Manufacturing	196.6	195.0	194.6	0.8	1.0	912.08	906.54	41.8	41.3	21.82	21.95
Durable Goods	133.4	132.1	132.5	1.0	0.7	961.78	913.10	42.5	40.8	22.63	22.38
Fabricated Metal Production	29.3	29.3	29.4	0.0	-0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Machinery Manufacturing	20.1	19.9	20.0	0.7	0.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer and Electronic Product	36.7	36.7	36.5	-0.1	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Navigational, Measuring, Electromedical and Control	24.6	24.6	24.4	-0.2	0.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Medical Equipment and Supplies Manufacturing	15.5	15.4	14.9	0.4	4.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nondurable Goods	63.2	62.9	62.0	0.4	1.8	817.29	894.65	40.5	42.3	20.18	21.15
Food Manufacturing	14.9	15.1	14.4	-1.1	3.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Printing and Related	14.3	14.3	14.7	0.1	-2.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
SERVICE-PROVIDING	1,706.5	1,703.4	1,690.4	0.2	1.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	361.2	359.0	354.5	0.6	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Wholesale Trade	98.2	97.7	96.3	0.5	2.0	897.00	880.85	37.5	38.6	23.92	22.82
Merchant Wholesalers - Durable Goods	49.7	49.5	48.4	0.5	2.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Merchant Wholesalers - Nondurable Goods	28.3	28.2	28.4	0.4	-0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Retail Trade	188.4	187.7	185.1	0.4	1.8	460.01	425.91	29.3	28.7	15.70	14.84
Food and Beverage Stores	34.8	34.7	34.1	0.3	2.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
General Merchandise Stores	37.8	38.2	35.8	-1.1	5.5	376.54	352.44	28.7	29.2	13.12	12.07
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	74.6	73.7	73.2	1.3	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Utilities	7.5	7.4	7.5	1.3	0.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Transportation and Warehousing	67.2	66.3	65.7	1.3	2.2	765.10	661.87	35.0	33.7	21.86	19.64
Information	37.2	37.2	38.1	0.1	-2.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Publishing Industries	15.0	15.0	15.2	-0.2	-1.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Telecommunications	8.2	8.2	8.7	0.2	-5.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Financial Activities	144.5	144.2	144.2	0.2	0.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Finance and Insurance	116.9	116.9	116.9	0.0	0.0	1,225.38	1,224.75	37.6	37.5	32.59	32.66
Credit Intermediation	46.7	46.8	47.9	-0.3	-2.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Securities, Commodity Contracts, and Other	17.5	17.5	17.4	-0.2	0.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Insurance Carriers and Related	52.7	52.5	51.6	0.4	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Real Estate and Rental and Leasing	27.6	27.4	27.3	0.9	1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional and Business Services	312.1	312.3	316.2	-0.1	-1.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Professional, Scientific, and Technical Services	138.4	138.9	138.9	-0.4	-0.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Legal Services	15.6	15.6	15.6	0.2	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Architectural, Engineering, and Related	18.8	18.8	18.3	-0.1	2.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Computer Systems Design	32.4	32.7	33.4	-1.0	-3.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Management of Companies and Enterprises	70.9	71.1	72.8	-0.2	-2.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Administrative and Support Services	102.8	102.3	104.5	0.5	-1.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Employment Services	46.4	46.4	49.0	0.0	-5.3	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational and Health Services	334.3	333.3	327.7	0.3	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Educational Services	46.7	46.9	44.2	-0.5	5.6	—	—	—	—	—	—
Health Care and Social Assistance	287.6	286.4	283.5	0.4	1.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Ambulatory Health Care	91.7	91.1	90.0	0.6	1.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hospitals	67.2	66.8	66.0	0.6	1.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nursing and Residential Care Facilities	59.2	59.8	59.9	-1.0	-1.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
Social Assistance	69.5	68.6	67.6	1.3	2.9	—	—	—	—	—	—
Leisure and Hospitality	180.3	178.4	180.2	1.1	0.0	—	—	—	—	—	—
Arts, Entertainment, and Recreation	32.2	32.8	31.7	-1.8	1.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Accommodation and Food Services	148.1	145.5	148.5	1.7	-0.3	307.15	306.66	21.3	21.4	14.42	14.33
Food Services and Drinking Places	135.7	133.1	134.5	1.9	0.9	300.98	298.66	20.7	20.9	14.54	14.29
Other Services	81.1	81.8	79.8	-0.8	1.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Repair and Maintenance	14.8	14.9	14.6	-0.8	1.1	—	—	—	—	—	—
Religious, Grantmaking, Civic, Professional Organizations	43.2	43.5	42.6	-0.8	1.5	—	—	—	—	—	—
Government	255.8	257.3	249.7	-0.6	2.4	—	—	—	—	—	—
Federal Government	21.2	21.3	21.4	-0.4	-0.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
State Government	69.2	69.5	65.8	-0.5	5.2	—	—	—	—	—	—
State Government Education	42.6	43.0	39.5	-1.0	7.8	—	—	—	—	—	—
Local Government	165.4	166.4	162.6	-0.6	1.7	—	—	—	—	—	—
Local Government Education	95.9	96.3	94.0	-0.4	2.0	—	—	—	—	—	—

Note: Not all industry subgroups are shown for every major industry category.

* Totals may not add because of rounding.

** Percent change based on unrounded numbers.

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, 2018.

Employer Survey

Industry

TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY

GOODS-PRODUCING

Mining, Logging, and Construction
Manufacturing

SERVICE-PROVIDING

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities
Wholesale Trade
Retail Trade
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities
Information
Financial Activities
Professional and Business Services
Educational and Health Services
Leisure and Hospitality
Other Services
Government

Duluth-Superior MSA

Jobs % Chg. From

	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Feb 2018	Mar 2017
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	136,410	136,839	135,006	-0.3%	1.0%
GOODS-PRODUCING	15,807	15,832	15,383	-0.2	2.8
Mining, Logging, and Construction	8,223	8,271	7,967	-0.6	3.2
Manufacturing	7,584	7,561	7,416	0.3	2.3
SERVICE-PROVIDING	120,603	121,007	119,623	-0.3	0.8
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	24,506	24,733	24,385	-0.9	0.5
Wholesale Trade	3,202	3,176	3,211	0.8	-0.3
Retail Trade	15,236	15,208	15,220	0.2	0.1
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	6,068	6,349	5,954	-4.4	1.9
Information	1,315	1,316	1,392	-0.1	-5.5
Financial Activities	5,911	5,899	5,863	0.2	0.8
Professional and Business Services	7,821	7,852	7,922	-0.4	-1.3
Educational and Health Services	32,848	33,011	32,314	-0.5	1.7
Leisure and Hospitality	13,455	13,368	13,292	0.7	1.2
Other Services	6,574	6,576	6,667	0.0	-1.4
Government	28,173	28,252	27,788	-0.3	1.4

Rochester MSA

Jobs % Chg. From

	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Feb 2018	Mar 2017
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	117,841	117,352	117,771	0.4%	0.1%
GOODS-PRODUCING	14,137	13,983	14,203	1.1	-0.5
Mining, Logging, and Construction	3,803	3,777	3,926	0.7	-3.1
Manufacturing	10,334	10,206	10,277	1.3	0.6
SERVICE-PROVIDING	103,704	103,369	103,568	0.3	0.1
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	17,645	17,668	17,575	-0.1	0.4
Wholesale Trade	2,634	2,613	2,593	0.8	1.6
Retail Trade	12,136	12,205	12,193	-0.6	-0.5
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	2,875	2,850	2,789	0.9	3.1
Information	1,865	1,862	1,854	0.2	0.6
Financial Activities	2,760	2,767	2,791	-0.3	-1.1
Professional and Business Services	5,267	5,165	5,250	2.0	0.3
Educational and Health Services	48,074	48,128	48,930	-0.1	-1.7
Leisure and Hospitality	10,728	10,609	10,110	1.1	6.1
Other Services	4,004	3,984	3,973	0.5	0.8
Government	13,361	13,186	13,085	1.3	2.1

Employer Survey

Industry

TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY

GOODS-PRODUCING

Mining, Logging, and Construction
Manufacturing

SERVICE-PROVIDING

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities
Wholesale Trade
Retail Trade
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities
Information
Financial Activities
Professional and Business Services
Educational and Health Services
Leisure and Hospitality
Other Services
Government

St. Cloud MSA

Jobs % Chg. From

	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Feb 2018	Mar 2017
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	109,480	109,053	108,787	0.4%	0.6%
GOODS-PRODUCING	21,510	21,052	21,045	2.2	2.2
Mining, Logging, and Construction	5,836	5,648	6,059	3.3	-3.7
Manufacturing	15,674	15,404	14,986	1.8	4.6
SERVICE-PROVIDING	87,970	88,001	87,742	0.0	0.3
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	21,785	21,585	22,155	0.9	-1.7
Wholesale Trade	4,686	4,661	4,575	0.5	2.4
Retail Trade	13,024	12,936	13,607	0.7	-4.3
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	4,075	3,988	3,973	2.2	2.6
Information	1,513	1,511	1,565	0.1	-3.3
Financial Activities	5,287	5,280	5,316	0.1	-0.5
Professional and Business Services	8,649	8,670	8,604	-0.2	0.5
Educational and Health Services	22,669	22,715	21,865	-0.2	3.7
Leisure and Hospitality	8,447	8,598	9,005	-1.8	-6.2
Other Services	3,908	3,908	3,826	0.0	2.1
Government	15,712	15,734	15,406	-0.1	2.0

Mankato MSA

Jobs % Chg. From

	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Feb 2018	Mar 2017
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	58,548	58,702	57,270	-0.3	2.2%
GOODS-PRODUCING	10,038	9,976	9,709	0.6	3.4
Mining, Logging, and Construction	--	--	--	--	--
Manufacturing	--	--	--	--	--
SERVICE-PROVIDING	48,510	48,726	47,561	-0.4	2.0
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	--	--	--	--	--
Wholesale Trade	--	--	--	--	--
Retail Trade	--	--	--	--	--
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	--	--	--	--	--
Information	--	--	--	--	--
Financial Activities	--	--	--	--	--
Professional and Business Services	--	--	--	--	--
Educational and Health Services	--	--	--	--	--
Leisure and Hospitality	--	--	--	--	--
Other Services	--	--	--	--	--
Government	9,801	9,896	9,732	-1.0	0.7

Employer Survey

Industry

TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY

GOODS-PRODUCING

Mining, Logging, and Construction
Manufacturing

SERVICE-PROVIDING

Trade, Transportation, and Utilities
Wholesale Trade
Retail Trade
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities
Information
Financial Activities
Professional and Business Services
Educational and Health Services
Leisure and Hospitality
Other Services
Government

Fargo-Moorhead MSA

Jobs % Chg. From

	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Feb 2018	Mar 2017
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	140,170	140,140	139,516	0.0%	0.5%
GOODS-PRODUCING	17,476	17,255	17,091	1.3	2.3
Mining, Logging, and Construction	7,688	7,479	7,609	2.8	1.0
Manufacturing	9,788	9,776	9,482	0.1	3.2
SERVICE-PROVIDING	122,694	122,885	122,425	-0.2	0.2
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	29,796	30,138	30,135	-1.1	-1.1
Wholesale Trade	8,905	8,865	8,946	0.5	-0.5
Retail Trade	15,217	15,612	15,660	-2.5	-2.8
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	5,674	5,661	5,529	0.2	2.6
Information	3,081	3,060	3,187	0.7	-3.3
Financial Activities	11,277	11,225	11,176	0.5	0.9
Professional and Business Services	15,262	15,025	15,414	1.6	-1.0
Educational and Health Services	24,756	24,751	23,935	0.0	3.4
Leisure and Hospitality	13,338	13,256	13,623	0.6	-2.1
Other Services	5,554	5,517	5,466	0.7	1.6
Government	19,630	19,913	19,489	-1.4	0.7

Grand Forks-East Grand Forks MSA

Jobs % Chg. From

	Mar 2018	Feb 2018	Mar 2017	Feb 2018	Mar 2017
TOTAL NONFARM WAGE AND SALARY	55,850	55,928	56,622	-0.1%	-1.4%
GOODS-PRODUCING	6,786	6,785	6,721	0.0	1.0
Mining, Logging, and Construction	2,450	2,459	2,459	-0.4	-0.4
Manufacturing	4,336	4,326	4,262	0.2	1.7
SERVICE-PROVIDING	49,064	49,143	49,901	-0.2	-1.7
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	11,409	11,573	11,524	-1.4	-1.0
Wholesale Trade	1,780	1,770	1,827	0.6	-2.6
Retail Trade	7,346	7,540	7,472	-2.6	-1.7
Transportation, Warehouse, Utilities	2,283	2,263	2,225	0.9	2.6
Information	562	570	572	-1.4	-1.8
Financial Activities	1,924	1,922	1,871	0.1	2.8
Professional and Business Services	3,342	3,326	3,136	0.5	6.6
Educational and Health Services	9,867	9,827	9,657	0.4	2.2
Leisure and Hospitality	5,488	5,459	6,310	0.5	-13.0
Other Services	1,982	1,979	2,006	0.2	-1.2
Government	14,490	14,487	14,825	0.0	-2.3

Source: Department of Employment and Economic Development, Current Employment Statistics, and North Dakota Job Service, 2018.

Minnesota Economic Indicators

Highlights

The **Minnesota Index** advanced for the 19th consecutive month in March but at a slower pace than in February. The index climbed 0.2 percent in March, matching the gain in the U.S. Index. The Minnesota Index's advance was fueled by an increase in wage and salary employment and wage and salary disbursements. The index's two other components – the unemployment rate and average weekly manufacturing hours – held steady in March. Minnesota's index was up 3.5 percent overtopping the 2.8 percent jump for the national index.

Minnesota's adjusted **Wage and Salary Employment** grew 2,900 jobs in March, following a 200 decline in February. The state has added 7,600 jobs since the beginning of the year. All of the job gain was in the private sector as government payrolls dropped by 100 positions. Goods-producing sectors added jobs for the seventh straight month which hasn't happened since early 2015. Hiring was strong in Trade, Transportation, and Utilities and in Manufacturing. Job cuts were largest in Other Services and Construction.

Minnesota's unadjusted over-the-year job growth inched down 0.7 percent or more than half as slowly as the 1.6 percent over-the-year job growth achieved nationally. Minnesota's relatively low rate of job growth may just be a product of the state's tightening labor market rather than from waning labor demand.

Online Help-Wanted Ads bounced back in March, rising to 135,100, the highest level for the year. Minnesota online job postings rose 3.8 percent in March while national postings increased 2.2 percent. The Conference Board, in addition to compiling and publishing online help-wanted ads, also publishes a supply/demand ratio for each state comparing the number of unemployed workers to the number of online job postings.

The national rate was 1.42 or 1.42 unemployed workers for each online help-wanted ad in March. Twelve states had a ratio of one or below including Minnesota with a supply/demand ratio of 0.77. Only Hawaii, North Dakota, and Colorado had lower supply/demand ratios. Among the 52 largest metro areas, the Minneapolis-St. Paul metro area's supply/demand ratio of 0.61 ranked second lowest behind San Jose. Minnesota employees increasingly are having trouble finding the workers they want to hire.

Minnesota's **Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI)** jumped for the second month in a row, advancing to 61.0, the highest reading since last August. The solid index suggests that Minnesota's manufacturing activity will be expanding at a robust rate through the summer. Minnesota manufacturers expanded their workforce by 3,100 over the last two months. That is the highest two-month gain since September/October of 2004. The corresponding national index tailed off to 59.3 in March while the Mid-American index, which includes Minnesota and eight other states, rose to 62.1.

Adjusted average weekly **Manufacturing Hours** remained at 40.5 for the second month in a row in March. Weekly factory hours nationally averaged 42.2 in March. Since the industrial classification system was revised in 2001, Minnesota and U.S. weekly manufacturing

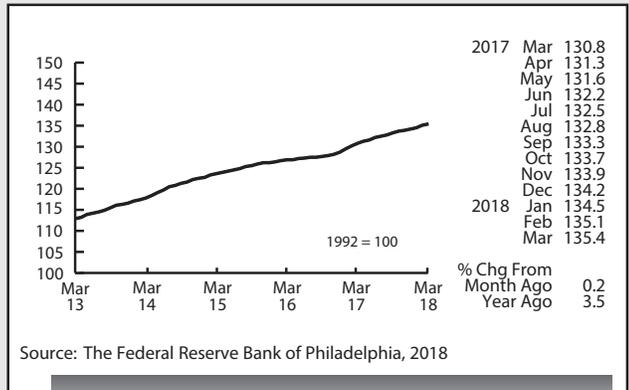
hours have averaged 40.6 and 41.1 hours respectively. Average weekly **Manufacturing Earnings** tailed off for the third consecutive month in March to \$868.52. Minnesota's average factory paycheck last December was \$886.52, the fourth-highest inflation-adjusted total over the 48 years of data. Factory paychecks, adjusted for inflation and seasonality, were less than a year ago for the first time in 14 months.

The **Minnesota Leading Index** dipped in March to 1.6 which is just above the 1.5 average over the 36 years of data for the index. The solid reading implies that the Minnesota Index will advance by 1.6 percent over the next six months. The Minnesota Index is a monthly proxy for the state's GDP.

Adjusted **Residential Building Permits**, after topping 2,000 for the first two months of 2018, dipped to 1,958 in March. Home-building levels through the first three months of 2018 are down 31 percent from 2017.

Adjusted **Initial Claims for Unemployment Benefits (UB)** climbed for the fourth time over the last five months in March to 17,512. Initial claim levels have been higher than a year ago since January. Initial claim levels were only higher than the previous year for one month in 2017. The recent uptick in initial claims, however, has been small, and claim levels remain low by historical standards. Initial claims have averaged roughly 10 for every 1,000 wage and salary jobs since 1970. March's ratio, just under six initial claims per 1,000 jobs, was way below the historical average.

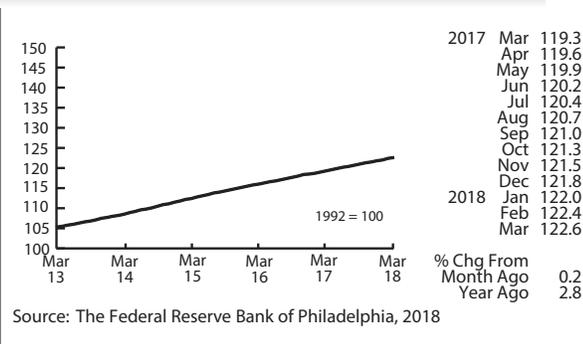
by Dave Senf



Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2018

Minnesota Index

United States Index

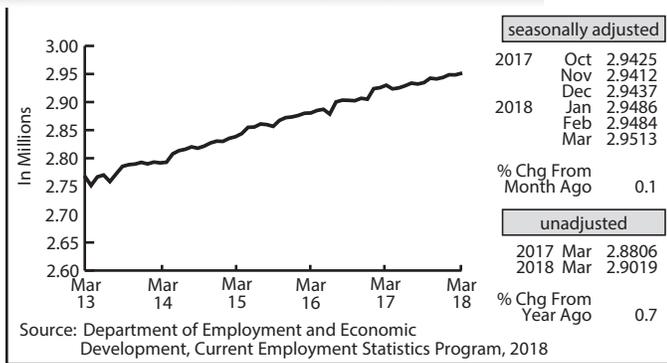


Source: The Federal Reserve Bank of Philadelphia, 2018

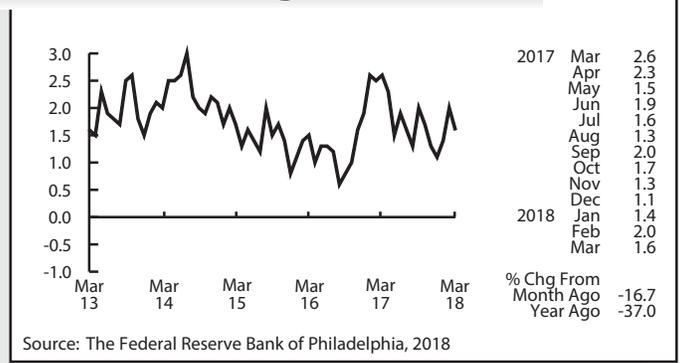
Note: All data except for Minnesota's PMI have been seasonally adjusted. See the feature article in the Minnesota Employment Review, May 2010, for more information on the Minnesota Index.

Minnesota Economic Indicators

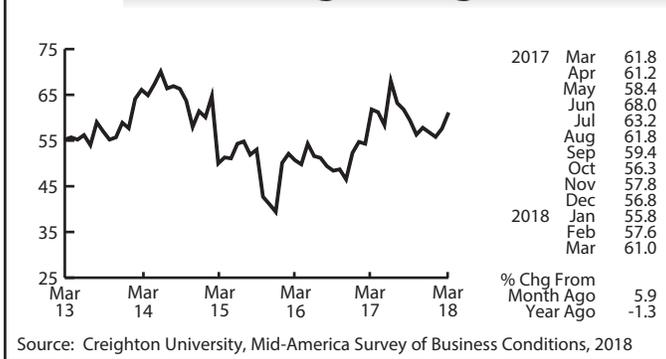
Wage and Salary Employment



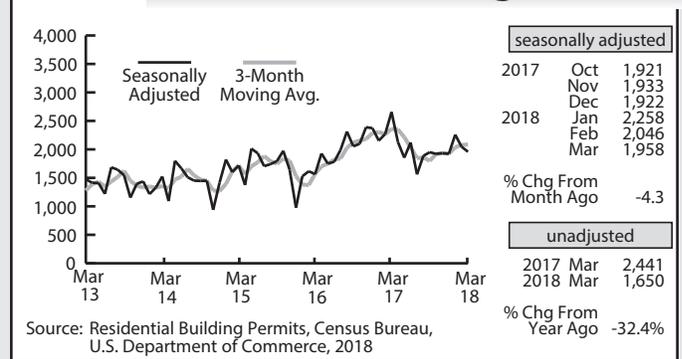
Minnesota Leading Index



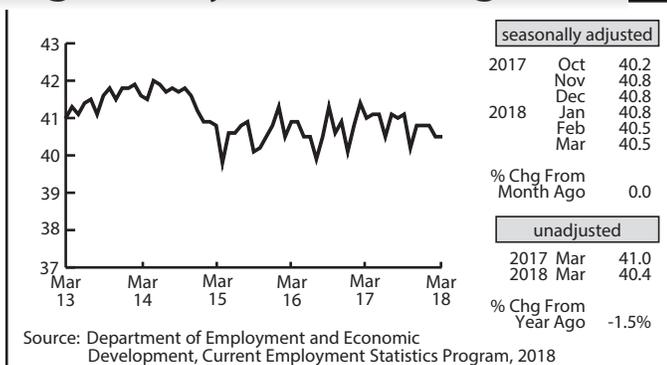
Purchasing Managers' Index



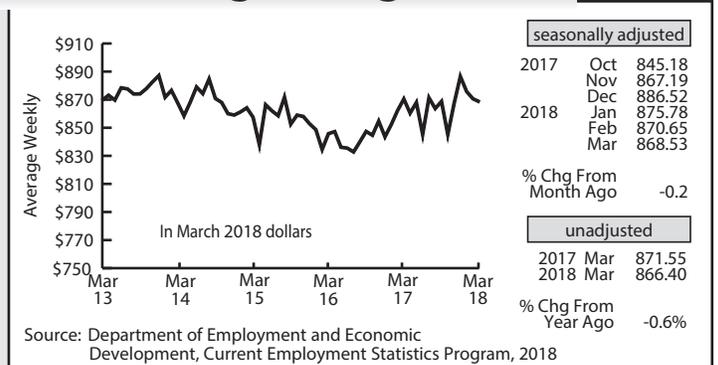
Residential Building Permits



Average Weekly Manufacturing Hours



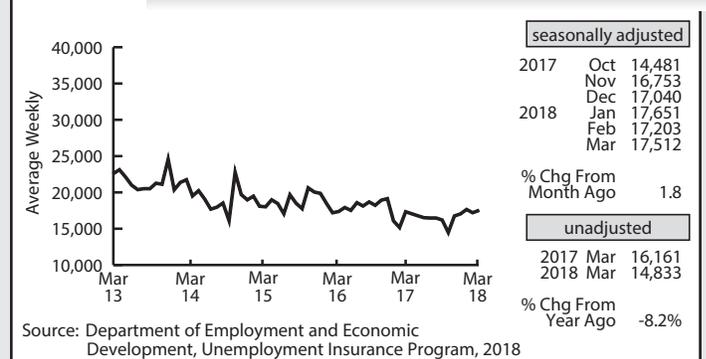
Manufacturing Earnings



Online Help-Wanted Advertising



Initial UB Claimants



Review

Minnesota Employment



DEED

Labor Market Information Office

1st National Bank Building
332 Minnesota Street, Suite E200
St. Paul, MN 55101-1351
651.259.7400 (voice)
1.888.234.1114 (toll free)
651.296.3900 (TTY)
1.800.657.3973 (TTY toll free)
e-mail :
DEED.lmi@state.mn.us
Internet :
mn.gov/deed/lmi

Labor Market Information

Help Line:

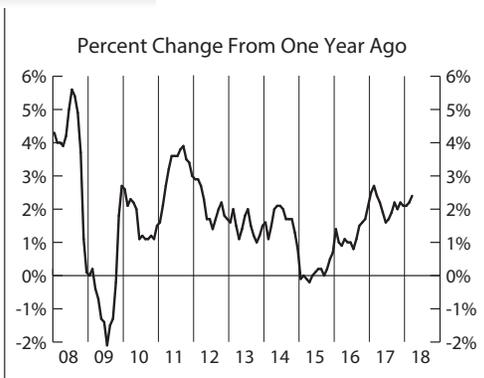
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U.S. Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U)

The Consumer Price Index for All Urban Consumers (CPI-U) decreased 0.1 percent in March on a seasonally adjusted basis after rising 0.2 percent in February the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. A decline in the gasoline index more than outweighed increases in the indices for shelter, medical care, and food to result in the slight seasonally adjusted decline in the all items index.



The all items index rose 2.4 percent for the 12 months ending March, the largest 12-month increase since the period ending March 2017 and higher than the 1.6-percent average annual rate over the past 10 years.

www.bls.gov/cpi/#news

For more information
on the U.S. CPI
or the semi-annual
Minneapolis-St. Paul CPI, call:
651.259.7384
or toll free 1.888.234.1114.

The employment and unemployment data in this publication were produced in cooperation with the Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor.
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The Last Word

The term “foreign born” refers to anyone who is not a U.S. citizen at birth according to the U.S. Census Bureau. Naturalized U.S. citizens, lawful permanent residents (immigrants), temporary migrants (like foreign students), humanitarian migrants (like refugees), and unauthorized migrants are included. The seven-county Metro Area had a total population of 2,978,822 people in 2016. Of this population 336,686 people (11.3 percent) self-reported as foreign born. Where the Metro Area makes up 54.7 percent of Minnesota’s total population, it makes up 78.9 percent of the state’s foreign born population. Read more about Foreign Born Trends in the Local Look – Metro Region.

(mn.gov/deed/data/locallook/metro/metro-blog.jsp#/detail/appId/1/id/340992)

Manufacturing Industry in Minnesota

Manufacturing represents an important part of the Minnesota economy. In 2016 it represented 317,411 jobs or 11.3% of total Minnesota employment. It represented \$20.2bn in total wages or 13.2% of the total wages earned in Minnesota. The average wages earned in Manufacturing are 17.4% higher than the average

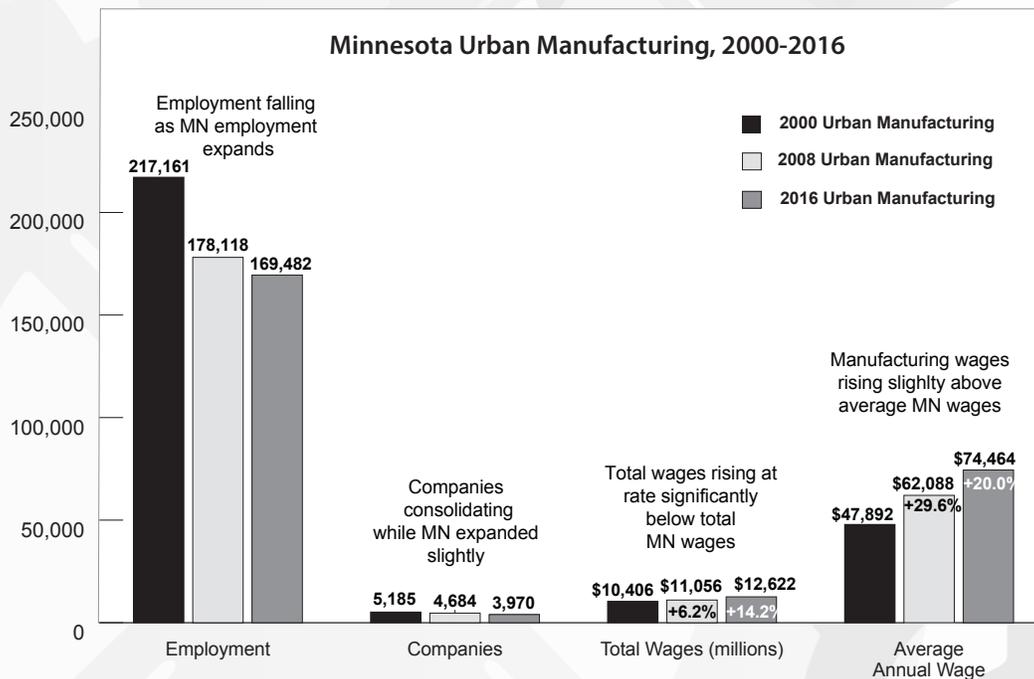
wages earned by Minnesotans. Since Manufacturing represents a core part of the Minnesota economy, it is important to take a closer look at this industry's recent past, its current performance, and its long-term outlook.

Minnesota Manufacturing Industry's Past

Manufacturing in Minnesota has shown four major trends over the last 17 years:

1. The total number of people employed in Manufacturing has been decreasing. A large majority of this decline is the result of productivity gains and automation.¹ Greater Minnesota decreased by 17.2% (Chart 2), and the Twin Cities Metro Area decreased by 22.0% (Chart 1).
2. The number of manufacturing establishments in Greater Minnesota has decreased by 10.2% (Chart 2). Twin Cities Metro Area manufacturing has decreased by 23.4% (Chart 1).
3. The total manufacturing wages in Minnesota have been rising slowly. Total Manufacturing wages in Greater Minnesota have increased by 25.5% (Chart 2). The Twin Cities Metro Area increased by 21.3% (Chart 1).
4. The average annual wages paid to manufacturing employees in Minnesota have been rising. Greater Minnesota has risen a total of 52.4% or 3.3% a year (Chart 2). The Twin Cities Metro Area has risen a total of 55.5% or 3.5% a year (Chart 1).

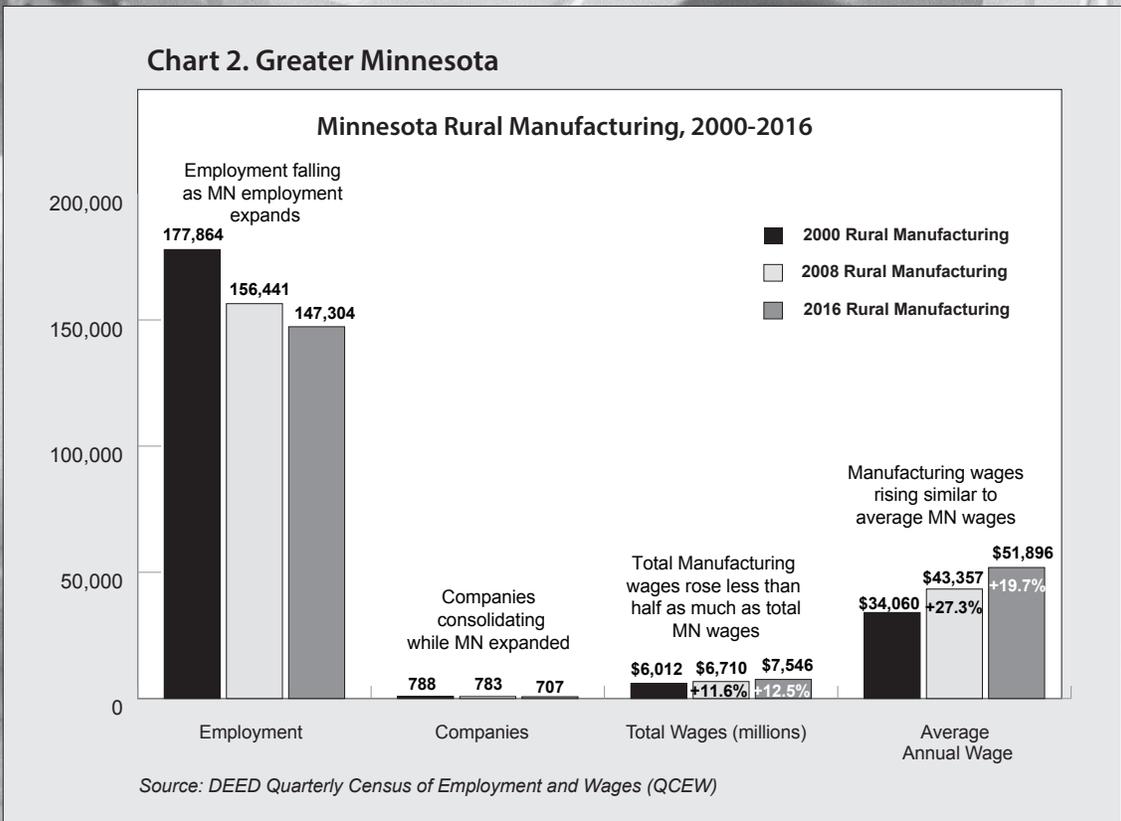
Chart 1. Twin Cities Metro Area



¹Wiseman, Paul. "Why robots, not trade, are behind so many factory job losses." AP News. November 02, 2016. Accessed March 14, 2018. <https://apnews.com/265cd8fb02fb44a69cf0eaa2063e11d9/mexico-taking-us-factory-jobs-blame-robots-instead>.



Chart 2. Greater Minnesota



Manufacturing in Minnesota Now

Top Manufacturing Export Products

“Manufacturing exports totaled \$18 billion with optics and medical equipment as top products and Canada and Mexico as top markets.”² Canada accounts for \$3.80bn in exports, Mexico accounts for \$2.20bn in exports, and China accounts for \$2.00bn in exports from Minnesota Manufacturers. Minnesota’s top Manufacturing exports are shown in Table 1.

Table 1. Top Manufactured Exports in Minnesota

Top Manufactured Exports, 2016	Exports (billions)
Optics, Medical	\$3.53
Machinery	\$3.11
Electrical Machinery	\$2.51
Vehicles	\$1.49
Plastics	\$1.13

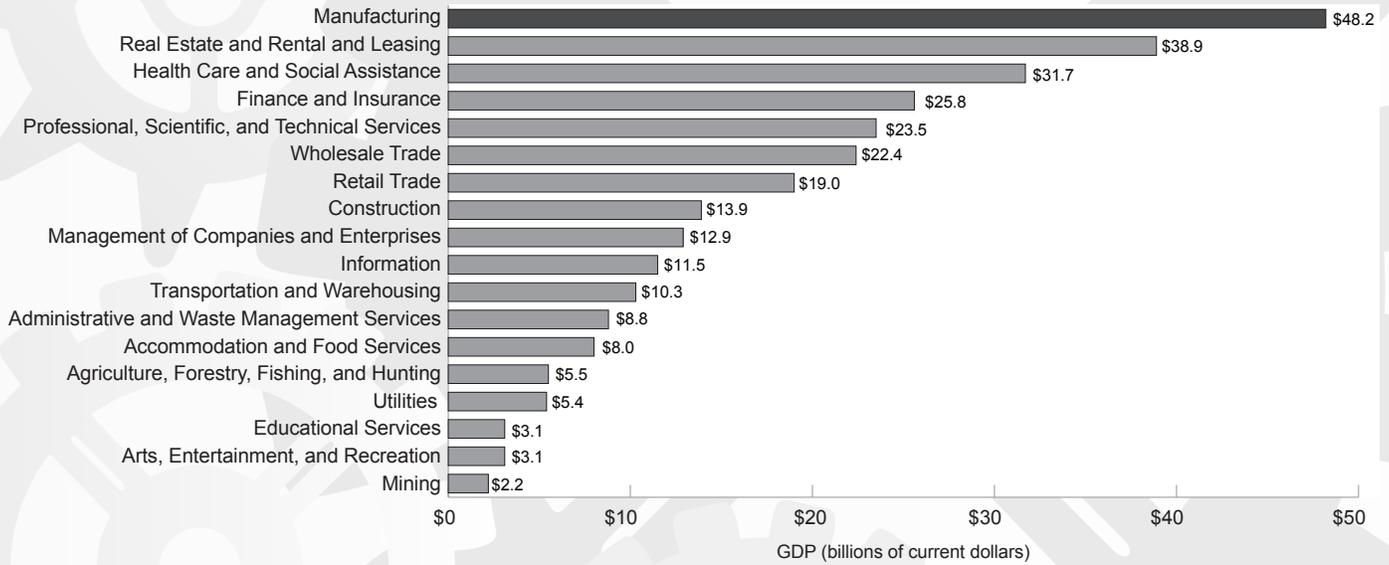
Source: DEED, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages, 2016

²Overview of Manufacturing. (2017, November 07). Retrieved from mn.gov/deed/business/locating-minnesota/industries-sectors/manufacturing/overview/

Top Industries based on total Minnesota GDP

“Manufacturing was the largest private sector contributor to Minnesota’s GDP (16 percent) in 2016.”³ The GDP of Minnesota’s Manufacturing industry in 2016 was \$48.2 billion, shown in Chart 3 below.

Chart 3. Total GDP by Industry in Minnesota

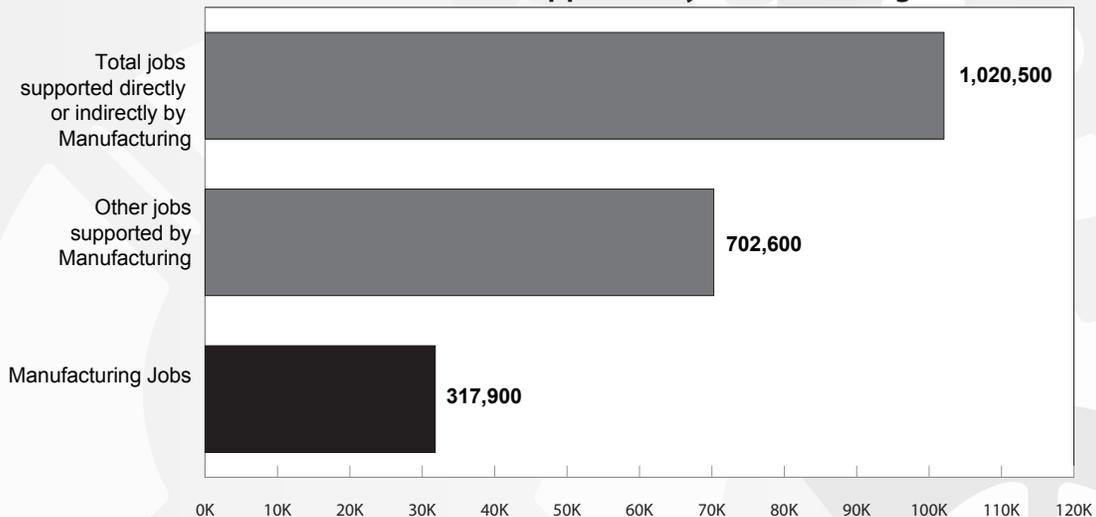


Note: Billions of current dollars (not adjusted for inflation)
Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

Manufacturing Industry’s Impact on other Minnesota Jobs

“In all, manufacturing accounted directly or indirectly for 1,020,500 jobs or 36% percent of all jobs in Minnesota in 2016. Each manufacturing job generates another 2.21 jobs in other segments of the economy, like jobs in sales, marketing, shipping, professional services and more.”⁴ The total number of jobs supported by Manufacturing are shown in Chart 4.

Chart 4. Total MN Jobs Supported by Manufacturing



Source: Bureau of Economic Analysis

³Economic Impact. (2017, August 29). Retrieved from mn.gov/deed/business/locating-minnesota/industries-sectors/manufacturing/impact/

⁴Ibid.

In the JVS survey⁵ shown in Table 2, the manufacturing industry has more openings in Q2 2017 than in any other quarter reported since the Job Vacancy Survey started in 2001. The state of Minnesota has 11,166 manufacturing industry job openings in Q2 2017 compared to 8,122 in 2001 and 2,563 in 2009. Indeed, the short term employment outlook for the manufacturing industry in Minnesota is bright.

Long Term Minnesota Manufacturing Outlook

The long term employment outlook for manufacturing jobs is mixed. Since the 2000s the total number of manufacturing jobs in the U.S. has been declining. The QCEW figures in Charts 1 and 2 above show that Minnesota has seen a modest decline in manufacturing employment since 2000. The decline in the percentage of total manufacturing employment in Minnesota has been less than in the entire U.S.

Chart 5 below shows that since 1987 real manufacturing output has increased about 70% while the total amount of employment decreased 28%. This is a result of productivity. If this trend continues, productivity and automation will decrease the total number of manufacturing jobs over the long run.

by Derek Teed

Chart 5. Historical Chart of Manufacturing Real Output (productivity) and Manufacturing Employment

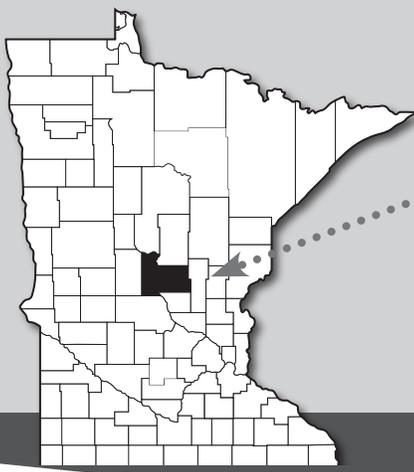


Table 2. Total Minnesota Job Vacancies in the Manufacturing Industry

	2nd Quarter	4th Quarter
2017	11,166	10,105
2016	8,536	7,661
2015	7,381	7,262
2014	6,954	9,905
2013	5,363	6,560
2012	5,157	5,419
2011	5,961	4,925
2010	3,767	3,391
2009	2,563	1,970
2008	4,685	3,047
2007	7,010	5,553
2006	7,367	5,883
2005	6,477	6,792
2004	8,455	5,931
2003	4,247	5,876
2002	5,093	3,650
2001	8,122	5,732

Source: DEED, Job Vacancy Survey

⁵Job Vacancy Survey. (n.d.). Retrieved from <https://apps.deed.state.mn.us/lmi/jvs/Results.aspx>. Manufacturing Industry.



CountySnapshot Morrison

Past

Established in 1856, Morrison County proclaims itself to be the gateway to Minnesota's northern cabin country. With 1,125 square miles Morrison County is the 17th largest county in the state. The county was home to Charles Lindbergh, who lived in Little Falls for 20 years before going on to complete the first solo, nonstop transatlantic flight. The recently discovered remains of Ft. Duquesne, a former French fur trading outpost, is situated along the Mississippi River just north of Little Falls. The county is also home to Camp Ripley, a 54,000 acre year-round training facility used by the National Guard, United States Army Reserve, and other active military units across the entire United States and Norway.¹

Future

Despite a slow but steady population growth trend (38th fastest of 87 counties) since 2000, the county's population is expected to stagnate and decline 0.6 percent through 2040. This nearly stable population projection creates a negative labor force projection to 2030, mainly caused by the further aging of an already older-than-typical labor force. However, since the county benefits from being the gateway to Minnesota's northern recreation hotspots, it could be positioned to take advantage of an increasing number of retirees commuting to vacation homes in the region.

Economy

2017 Estimates	Morrison County	Minnesota
Population	33,064	5,576,606
Labor Force	17,811	3,063,604
Average Unemployment	5.5%	3.5%
Median Household Income (2016)	51,456	63,217
Cost of Living, Individual (2018)	29,026	31,656
Cost of Living, Average Family (2018)	49,195	57,624

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, LAUS, American Community Survey, DEED Cost of Living

Morrison County Employment, 2016

Top Employing Industries	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Average Wage	Change in Jobs	Change in Wages
Total All Industries	942	10,838	36,868	-534	7,176
Education and Health Services	108	2,400	39,104	330	8,580
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	204	2,303	31,356	-172	6,760
Leisure and Hospitality	119	1,202	13,000	66	3,536
Public Administration	40	1,099	55,068	126	8,412

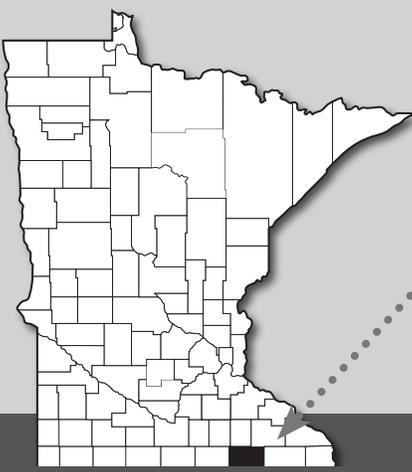
Source: DEED, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Trends

Although the county has consistently added residents over the last 15 years, the labor force had 500 fewer workers in 2017 than the peak in 2011. The tightening labor force combined with an expanding economy to create a decreasing unemployment rate, averaging 5.5 percent in 2017.

Employment levels, however, have been inconsistent. Despite some positive growth years in 2008, 2011, and again in 2015 and 2016, the 10,899 jobs posted in 2016 are fewer than what was reported a decade prior. The largest industry in the county is the Education and Health Services sector with 2,400 jobs at 108 establishments. The industry gained jobs throughout the recession but then lost jobs from 2011 to 2014. The second largest industry, Trade, Transportation, and Utilities, remains well below the prerecession high of 2,556 jobs. However, in spite of the last recession, Retail Trade employment has been relatively stable and remains just 87 jobs short of the previous peak in 2008. The third largest industry was Leisure and Hospitality with 1,202 jobs in the third quarter of 2017. Although job levels have fluctuated since 2000, the last two years are trending upwards.

¹Retrieved from http://www.co.morrison.mn.us/index.asp?Type=B_BASIC&SEC={9981D514-8B98-4FFC-B974-F8086E65CE82}&DE={AB89E2CE-840E-47B0-AFAE-700A2B84687B}



CountySnapshot Mower

Past

On March 1, 1856, Mower County was established with the signature of Governor Willis A. Gorman. The name “Mower” was selected to honor John E. Mower, a territorial legislator. Frankford was the where the first Board of Commissioners met and was likely to be the county seat. But with no county building and documents secured only in a tin box, the box was stolen and moved to Austin and thus Austin became the county seat. What started out as a small frontier county eventually had over 48,000 residents by 1960. Since then the population declined and then stabilized at just fewer than 40,000 people in 2017.

Future

Like many counties in Minnesota, Mower is expected to have fewer residents in the future than today. By 2040 the projected population is 36,836, 5.5 percent less than its projected population in 2020. Although an overall decline is expected, growth within certain age groups should occur, specifically people 75 years or older. Historically low unemployment rates combined with a decreasing labor force projection mean that employers should expect current tight labor market conditions to persist into the foreseeable future.

Economy

2017 Estimates	Mower County	Minnesota
Population	39,566	5,576,606
Labor Force	20,595	3,063,604
Average Unemployment	2.9%	3.5%
Median Household Income (2016)	51,778	63,217
Cost of Living, Individual (2018)	26,986	31,656
Cost of Living, Average Family (2018)	46,721	57,624

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, LAUS, American Community Survey, DEED Cost of Living

Mower County Employment, 2016

Top Employing Industries	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Average Wage	Change in Jobs	Change in Wages
Total All Industries	839	16,567	46,696	254	14,352
Education and Health Services	99	4,058	43,524	274	11,804
Trade, Transportation, and Utilites	34	3,740	51,324	-91	9,620
Leisure and Hospitality	198	2,934	41,028	-79	17,524
Public Administration	78	1,966	82,992	513	30,264

Source: DEED, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

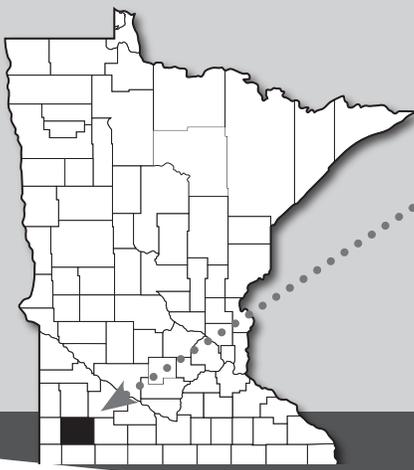
Trends

Mower County has enjoyed positive employment growth since the last recession ended. By the third quarter of 2017 the county had 16,567 jobs, 254 more jobs than it did in 2007, and set a new record high. Average annual wages in the county grew dramatically from 2007 to 2017, amounting to a 45 percent increase.

Mower, like many counties in Minnesota, had more jobs in the Education and Health Services industry than any other, nearly one-quarter of total employment. The industry has also proved to be a source of jobs throughout the recession and since 2011 has been on the rise. With a large Nursing and Residential Care component, the Healthcare sector has been experiencing substantial growth in the last few years, partly from an older population relative to the state. The labor market is tight in Mower County with some of the lowest unemployment rates in the state, most recently 2.9 percent for 2017, more than a half point lower than Minnesota.

Although Manufacturing has significantly fewer jobs than it did around the turn of the century, it remains Mower County’s second largest industry with 3,640 jobs in 2016. The industry also has a good median wage at \$18.52 per hour, more than \$5 higher than the median hourly wage for all jobs in the county. The vast majority – 90 percent – of Manufacturing jobs are in the Food Manufacturing subsector.

²Retrieved from www.mowercountyhistory.org/history.html



CountySnapshot Murray

Past

Established in 1857 and formally organized in 1872, Murray County's original county seat, Currie, was changed to Slayton after a contentious battle in 1890. Philander Prescott was the first European to visit the area in 1831, and the first white immigrants settled around Lake Shetek

The first F5 tornado in Minnesota's history tragically struck the small town of Tracy after tracking through Murray County in 1968, killing nine people and injuring 125 more.³

Future

Currently holding as the 75th largest (or 13th smallest) county of 87 in the state, Murray County has declined in population by 44 percent since 1950, making a small county even smaller. Recent trends show more of the same, resulting in a declining labor force, estimated at 4,850 in 2017. The county had roughly 900 fewer workers in 2017 compared to 2009. Unemployment in the county, however, is high for the region and has remained above the state average since 2013. This "slack" means employers still have willing workers who can contribute to the local economy.

Economy

2017 Estimates	Murray County	Minnesota
Population	8,346	5,576,606
Labor Force	4,850	3,063,604
Average Unemployment	4.6%	3.5%
Median Household Income (2016)	51,801	63,217
Cost of Living, Individual (2018)	27,961	31,656
Cost of Living, Average Family (2018)	46,138	57,624

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, LAUS, American Community Survey, DEED Cost of Living

Murray County Employment, 2016

Top Employing Industries	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Average Wage	Change in Jobs	Change in Wages
Total All Industries	323	2,994	34,788	232	9,464
Education and Health Services	95	761	36,556	116	11,232
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	23	629	34,788	-37	8,528
Leisure and Hospitality	9	510	34,268	246	8,060
Public Administration	32	227	14,560	-21	6,188

Source: DEED, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Trends

Despite a population decline, Murray County experienced exceptional job growth throughout the recession, experiencing only a single year of decline in 2007 and even then losing just 39 jobs. From the third quarter of 2007 to 2017, total employment grew by 8.4 percent by adding 232 net new jobs. Most of the gains were found in the Manufacturing sector, the third largest industry in the county with 510 jobs at nine establishments. While most regions have yet to reach pre-recession employment in the Manufacturing industry, manufacturers in Murray County nearly doubled employment since 2007.

The largest industry in 2017 was Trade, Transportation, and Utilities with 761 jobs at 95 business establishments. Thanks to a strong Manufacturing and Agriculture economy in the county throughout the recession, the Retail Trade subsector only recently shed a small number of jobs but remains at the same level as the previous peak in 2009, with 348 jobs in 2017.

³Retrieved from <http://www.mnopedia.org/place/murray-county>



County Snapshot Nicollet

Past

Named after the French explorer Joseph N. Nicollet, Nicollet County makes up the northern part of the North Mankato-Mankato Metropolitan Statistical Area, along with Blue Earth County. The county is mainly farmland, but also contains 24,000 acres of forest and 12,000 acres of wetland.

Early in the state's history, the Minnesota capitol was to be moved from St. Paul to St. Peter, but the bill to make the change disappeared. The county seat, however, moved to St. Peter in 1856.

Future

Nicollet County looks to be positioned well for the future. With the 22nd fastest growing population in the state from 2000 to 2016, a larger concentration of younger residents, and positive population projections, Nicollet County should be able to grow its economic base as employers keep a keen eye on labor force availability. Although the labor force is actually expected to decline slightly from 2020 to 2030, the positive population projection and recent labor force growth trend should at least allow employment to recover fully from the losses incurred during the recession.

Economy

2017 Estimates	Nicollet County	Minnesota
Population	33,966	5,576,606
Labor Force	20,469	3,063,604
Average Unemployment	2.7%	3.5%
Median Household Income (2016)	61,501	63,217
Cost of Living, Individual (2018)	28,612	31,656
Cost of Living, Average Family (2018)	47,338	57,624

Source: U.S. Census Bureau, LAUS, American Community Survey, DEED Cost of Living

Nicollet County Employment, 2016

Top Employing Industries	Number of Firms	Number of Jobs	Average Wage	Change in Jobs	Change in Wages
Total All Industries	728	14,724	42,484	109	9,932
Education and Health Services	105	3,886	43,940	603	6,188
Trade, Transportation, and Utilities	61	3,867	45,032	-1,250	10,088
Leisure and Hospitality	144	2,324	37,180	540	8,216
Public Administration	75	992	53,768	-80	20,228

Source: DEED, Quarterly Census of Employment and Wages

Trends

Employment in the county took a tumble during the recession and hasn't been able to correct the losses. From 2006 to 2010 almost 1,700 jobs vanished as employment decreased by 11.5 percent. The largest loss occurred in the Manufacturing industry where 1,248 jobs were shed in the four-year period, meaning over a quarter of Manufacturing jobs in the county disappeared. Since then the rebound in Manufacturing has been positive, with 294 jobs added from the third quarter of 2010 to 2017.

The Education and Health Services industry is the largest sector in terms of employment with 3,886 jobs in 2017. Growth has been consistent since 2008, enabling the sector to increase its share of total employment to 27 percent.

Despite not recovering from the Great Recession, Manufacturing remains the second largest industry by a close margin, heavy on Printing and Related Support activities, with 2,065 jobs.

by Luke Greiner